Practical Paracord Projects

Practical Paracord Projects

Survival Bracelets, Lanyards, Dog Leashes, and Other Cool Things You Can Make Yourself

Skyhorse Publishing

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Introduction

Every outdoorsman and woman knows that paracord is the number one item you don't want to be caught without when camping. It is incredibly strong and useful in many situations, but it isn't always easy to carry it around in a bundle. Don't worry. The DIYers at Instructables have you covered. They'll show you every way to weave, knot, and intertwine your paracord into bracelets, belts, and bags so you can easily bring it with you for any survival situation.

What really makes paracord amazing is that there is so much you can do with it from tying crampons to your shoe or turning a spare piece of paracord into a fishing lure, to making a paracord army man and then decking him out with all the accessories a little army man could ask for—including a miniature paracord horse!

So, get a roll of paracord, scissors, and a lighter, and you'll be ready to learn how to make these Practical Paracord Projects!

—Nicole Smith (Penolopy Bulnick)

Jewelry

Cobra Weave Bracelet

Bracelet with Buckle

Wide Bracelet

Sawtooth Bracelet

Adjustable Bracelet

Oat Spike Bracelet

Heart Pendant

Necklace

Ring

Monkey's Fist

Cobra Weave Bracelet

By mattrush

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Endless-Paracord-Bracelet/)

I was looking online and found lots of paracord bracelets that have buckles so you can take them off. I came up with this design that doesn't need to be taken off. Paracord is just as strong when it gets wet; it also dries pretty quickly. This bracelet also gives you one long bit of cord when it's unraveled.

Step 1: Make Loops

Start by making folding the paracord in half and making two loops at either side, with the middle of it going behind the ends. Each loop should be the size of your wrist or wherever you want to wear it, plus one or two inches' wiggle room.

Step 2: Cobra Stitch

Pull the two loops inwards so that they make a complete loop. Now fold the two ends back on themselves and begin to use the cobra stitch. For anyone new to this, it is the process of passing one end behind a center core and the other in front of it and threading each end through the loop created.

Step 3: Tie Knots

Keep tying these knots around the center two strands until you get back around to the other side. It is easiest to tie it snug and then try and slide it onto your wrist, as it's hard to tie with one hand.

Step 4: Tighten Ends

To finish it off turn the bracelet inside out and thread the two ends back under the last two loops. A pair of pliers or a multitool is handy here to get the ends as tight as possible. Work the ends until it's as

tight as possible. Then cut the ends as close to the knot as possible. Then, using a lighter, wax the ends closed and heat the last knot slightly just to make it smoother. Turn it back the right way and slide it on your wrist. I only do it with one layer of cord as it's not bulky or intrusive, but each to their own, so get creative.

Bracelet with Buckle

By Stormdrane

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-bracelet-with-a-side-release-buckle/)

This tutorial will show how to make a paracord bracelet with a side-release buckle. When made on a larger scale, you can make this for use as a dog or cat collar as well. A reliable online source of paracord is the Supply Captain, and for side-release buckles I recommend Creative Designworks.

Step 1: Materials

You'll need:

- Paracord, or equivalent 1/8" diameter cord
- Tape measure or ruler
- Scissors
- Side-release buckle
- Lighter (torch lighter works best).

The amount of cord used can vary, but for this example, we'll use 10 feet of paracord to start with. Actual amount of cord used for the bracelet is about one foot of cord for every one inch of knotted bracelet length. So if your wrist is 8 inches, you'd use approximately 8 feet of cord.

Step 2: Measure Wrist

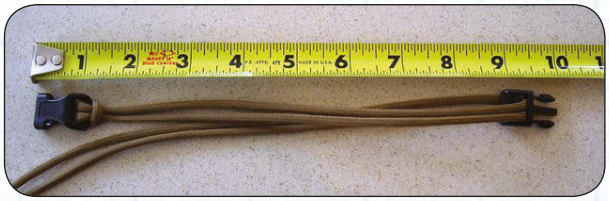
Wrap the paracord around your wrist and make a note of where the cord meets. Hold this point next to your ruler or tape measure, and that's your wrist size.

Step 3: Find the Center of the Cord

Hold the ends of the cord together and find the center of the loop. Take the center of the cord and pull it through one end of the buckle (either side of the buckle, it doesn't matter). Now pull the cord ends through the loop until it's tightened up and attached to the buckle.

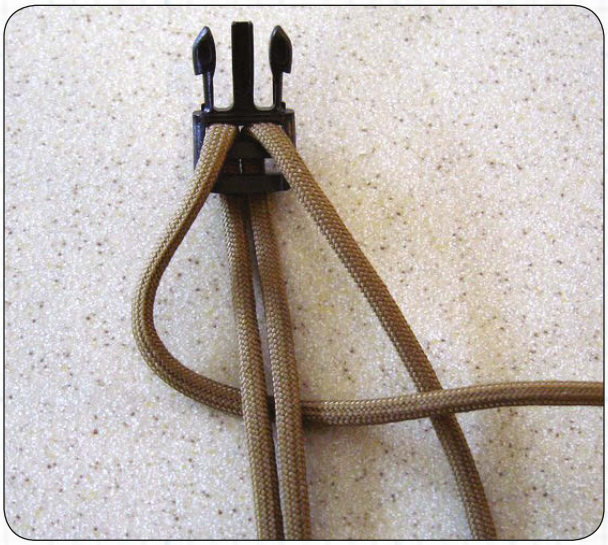
Step 4: Finding the Bracelet Length

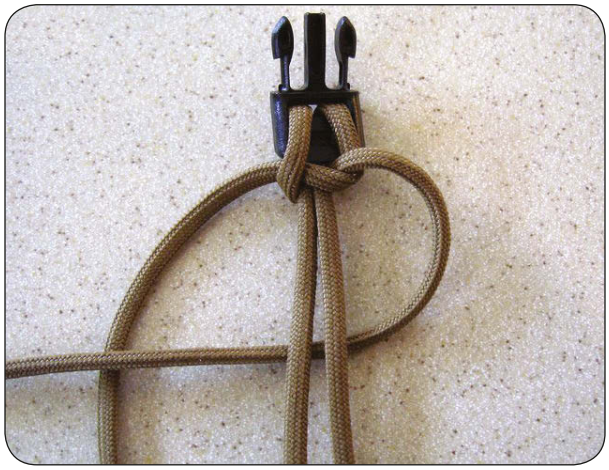
Take the buckle apart and pull the free ends of the cord through the other part of the buckle, sliding it up toward the attached part. You're going to measure the distance between the two buckle ends for the bracelet size for your wrist. Add about one inch to your measured wrist length; this will make the finished bracelet a comfortable fit. You're measuring from the end of the female part of the buckle to the flat part of the male end of the buckle (the part with the prongs; they don't count for the measurement because they fit inside the female part of the buckle when the bracelet is closed).

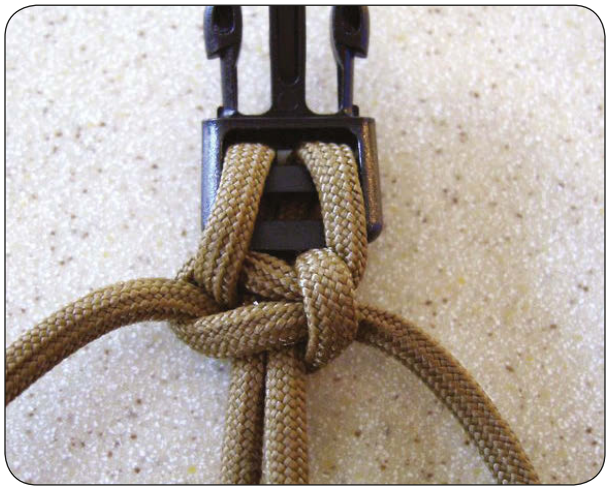


Step 5: Start Making the Knots

The knot used for the bracelet has a few different names—cobra stitch, Solomon bar, and Portuguese sinnet. Take the cord on the left side and place it under the center strands running between the buckle ends. Now take the cord on the right side under the left-side cord, over the center strands, and through the loop of the left-side cord. Tighten up the cords so the half knot you just formed is next to the buckle. Now take the right-side cord under the center strands. The left-side cord goes under the right-side cord, over the center strands, and through the loop of the right-side cord. Tighten up the cords (not too tight, just until they meet the resistance of the knot) and now you have a completed knot. You will continue, alternating the left and right sides as you go. If you don't alternate, you'll quickly see a twisting of the knots, and just undo the last knot and begin alternating to correct.

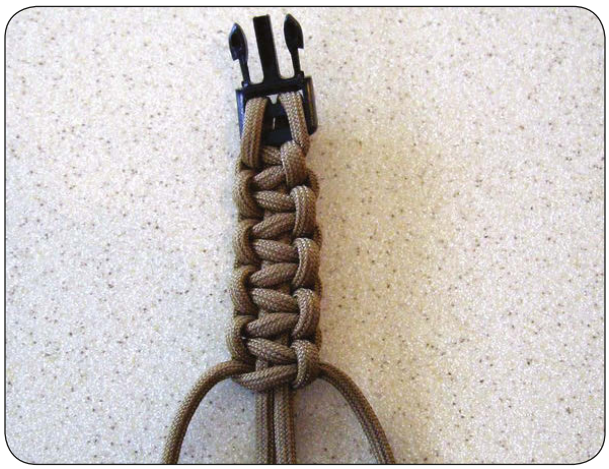


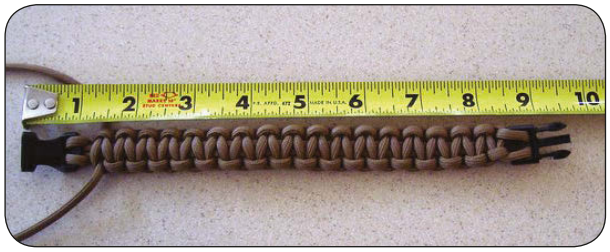




Step 6: Continue Knotting

Keep tying the knots until you have filled the space between the buckle ends. The knots should be uniform from one end to the other. Tie each knot with the same tension to keep them all the same size.





Step 7: Trim the Excess Cord and Melt the Ends

You can now use your scissors to trim off the extra cord close to the last knot you tied. I trim one at a time and use my lighter to quickly melt the end I cut, wait a second for the melted cord to cool just a bit, and then use my thumb to press the melted end onto the surrounding cord so it hardens as it cools and attaches. You must be careful with this step. The melted cord is extremely hot, and it's possible to get burned, so you might also try using a soldering iron or woodburning tool for the melting step if you wish, or you could even use something like a butter knife, the side of your lighter, or the knurled section of a tool to flatten out the melted end of the cord to finish it.

An alternative to melting the ends is to tuck/pull the ends under the last couple of knots. I have used hemostats to do this on the inside of the bracelet, then trimmed them to finish. It does work, and is just barely noticeable, as the cords add a slight bulge at that end of the bracelet.

Step 8: You're Finished

If you did everything correctly, it should look something like this finished one. Once you know what you're doing, you can vary the amount of cord used by making the knots tighter or looser and pushing the knots closer together as you go.

A tip for paracord bracelets: If the side-release buckle is large enough, you can loop the paracord around it again before you start knotting to fill in the extra room on the buckle. The 1/2" side-release buckles are a tight fit for this, but will work, and the 5/8" size is just right. This leaves a two-strand core for the bracelet when you start knotting. Now, you could also have a four-strand core by starting with a lark's head on the first buckle end, double wrapping on the second buckle end (at your wrist size), running cord back to and over the first buckle end, then starting to knot over the four-strand core. Or, for a six-strand core, lark's head first buckle, run the two strands around second buckle (at your wrist size), back to and around first buckle (now has four strands around), then back to and around second buckle, and start knotting around the six core strands. This gives extra cord in case you need it for whatever, but it also makes the paracord bracelets thicker and more rounded, which I personally didn't care for and that's why I stick with the two strand core.

Step 9: Other Variations

Once you have the hang of the basic bracelet/collar, you can add another layer of cobra stitches

overlapping first set of knots, called a king cobra stitch/doubled Solomon bar/doubled Portuguese sinnet. The amount of cord used for a king cobra is about twice as much as for the regular stitch. Both the 1/16" and 3/32" sizes work well for the bracelets and can be used alone or combined with paracord. Glow-in-the-dark paracord is available now, found from various online vendors and on ebay, but I haven't used any myself, so I couldn't say if it's any good or not, or how long it glows, etc.

Wide Bracelet

By Falcon_WOG

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Wide-Paracord-Bracelet/)

I will show you how I made a wide paracord bracelet with a side-release buckle. This is also a good plan for a collar for your dog.

Step 1: Pick Your Colors

The first step is picking your colors. The optimal setup is using two colors that contrast. Also, I recommend a 1" side-release buckle. This allows you plenty of room to insert the cord. The ⅝" size I used made it very tight to work with. To figure out how much paracord you will need, measure your wrist where you want the bracelet to sit at. Take that measurement and multiply by 12 to get your approximate start length. You should have plenty of cord left over at the finish. It's better to have too much than not enough. The color you want as the outside one should be your wrist measurement times 12. You should make 2 lengths of this. The color you have for the inside will be twice as long as the outside color, or 24 times your wrist measurement. Loop the strands onto your buckle using a cow-hitch knot. One tip is to make sure you keep the same pattern going and not switch which cord goes over and which one goes under. If you do switch the order it will make the pattern look disjointed.

Step 2

Take cord 4 and go under cord 5 and over the standing end of cord 6. Snug up the half knot.

Step 3

You are then going to take cord 6 and go over 5 and then under the standing end of cord 4. Tighten the half knot up to the base of the previous knots.

Step 4

Now take cord 4 under 5 and over 6.

Step 5

Now take cord 6 and go over 5 and under the standing end of 4. Tighten the entire knot up snugly.

Step 6

Now to start on the other side: Take cord 3 and go under 2 and over 1.

Step 7

Take cord 1 and go over 2 and under the standing end of 3. Snug the knot up.

Step 8

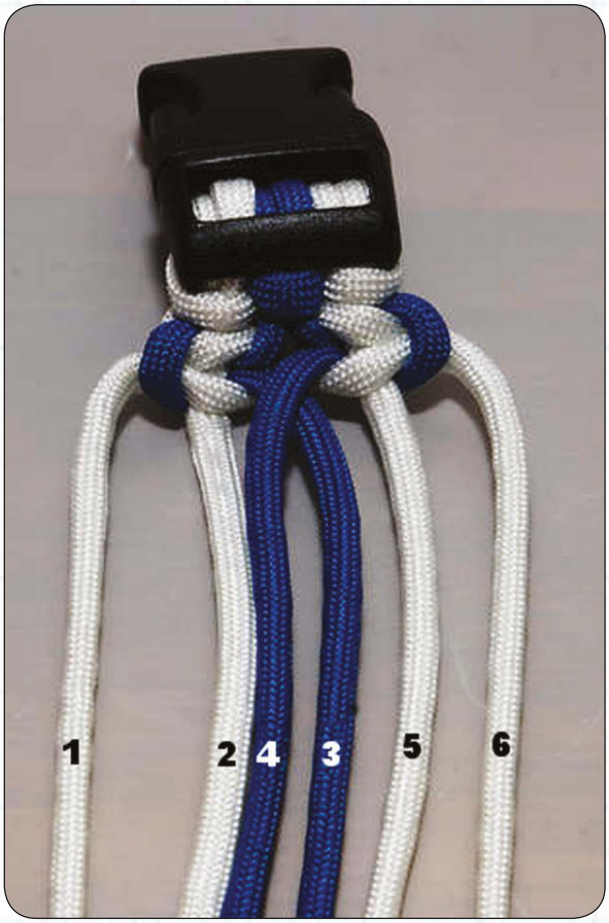
Now take cord 3 and go under 2 and over 1.

Step 9

Take cord 1 and go over 2 and under the standing end of 3. Tighten up the knot.

Step 10

You are now going to cross cord 4 over the top of cord 3. This step connects the two separate rows of square knots together. When you repeat this crossing for each set of knots, remember to always cross the cords in the exact same way. It makes the resulting bracelet a lot neater looking.



Step 11

Repeat until you get the desired length.

Step 12: Attaching the Other Side of the Buckle

This is entirely up to you. There is no right or wrong way to do it, just make sure it is secure. What I normally do is use a cow hitch with cords 2 and 5 on the bracelet and then as I am knotting the rest of the bracelet these ends are doubled back on themselves and knotted over so they stay snug and secure.

Step 13: Finished

When completed, the bracelet should look like the photo. One tip: When you are nearing the end, have whomever you are making this bracelet for try it on. If it is too tight or loose it is easier to make adjustments now rather than after you have cut off the excess cord and melted the ends together.

Sawtooth Bracelet

By building king

(http://www.instructables.com/id/The-Sawtooth-Paracord-Bracelet-Weave/)

When I saw the snake weave, it was cool, but I did not like how it was round. Before I made a bracelet using the snake weave, I made one of the over-under bracelets. I liked how flat the over-under one was, but I did not like how it only had one color. I also saw a version of the over-under bracelet that used two colors. But I did not like the pattern. I thought to myself, there must be a different way to make that. I then thought of this pattern, but I did not know that it would have a snake weave kind of look. As I made more and more of the pattern, it started looking like two saw blades.

If you look closely the weave looks like this:

|_/_|
|_/_|
|_/_|

The two cords come together at an angle, and that gives it the saw-blade look.

Step 1: Materials

Well when I figured out how much cord I was going to use, I was surprised. Compared to the snake weave, it uses half the cord. It is pretty awesome!

Materials:

- Two different lengths of cord measuring from end of hand to nose (plus a little bit if you have huge wrists) in different colors
- One length of cord that is that is twice as long as the circumference of your wrist plus enough to tie a knot
- A lighter

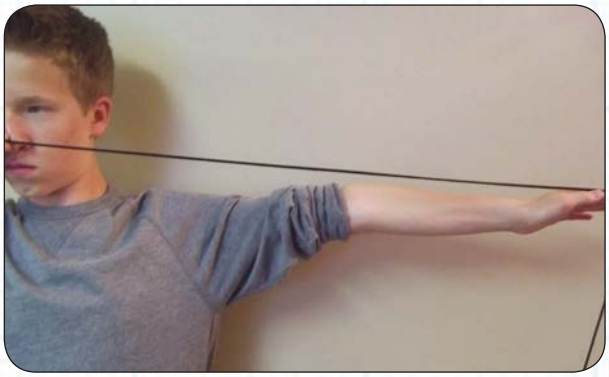
Optional:

- String to tie to a chair leg, post, tree (just to keep the bracelet tight)

Step 2: Cut Your Cord!

Measure from your hand to your nose and cut. But wait! If you have huge wrists or you make loose bracelets add some more length to the cord before you cut it.

After you cut those two differently colored strands, get one color (black is the best for most bracelets) and measure the circumference of your wrist and then multiply by two (just wrap cord around your wrist two times). Then add some more string so that you will be able to tie a knot.



Step 3: Start Weavin'

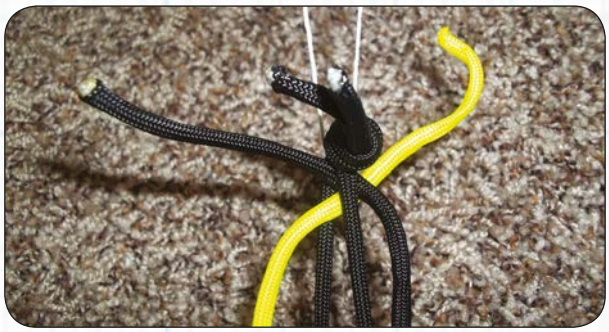
Okay, this next step is kind of hard to explain in words. It is a very visual kind of Instructable, so all the instructions are in the pictures.

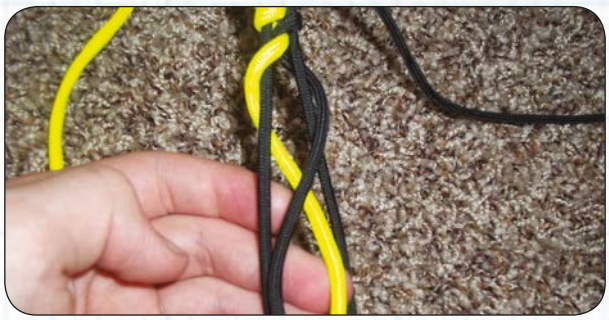
First step: Tie any knot you want (monkey's fist, overhand, etc.) so that you don't have to melt the ends together in the middle of the bracelet.

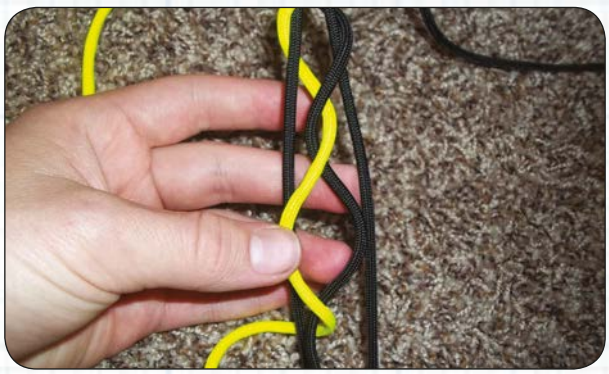
If you wanted to get the optional string, tie it to something secure (tree, table leg, chair leg, etc.) and then tie your knot at the end so the string won't fall off.

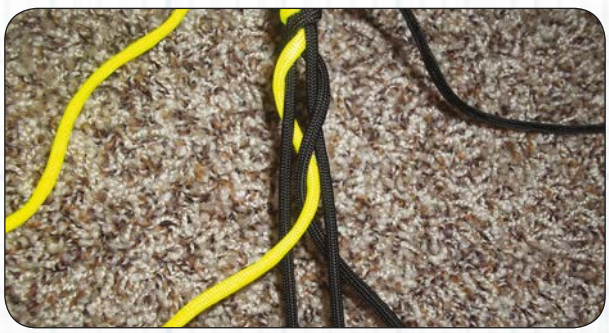
To start it, pretty much just cross two cords so one is coming out the back and one is coming out of the front, then tie it off and start weaving with the long ends (first picture).

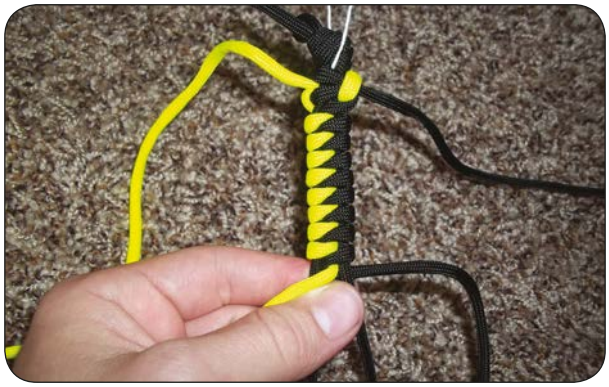
Look at the pictures and the picture notes to get the instructions.

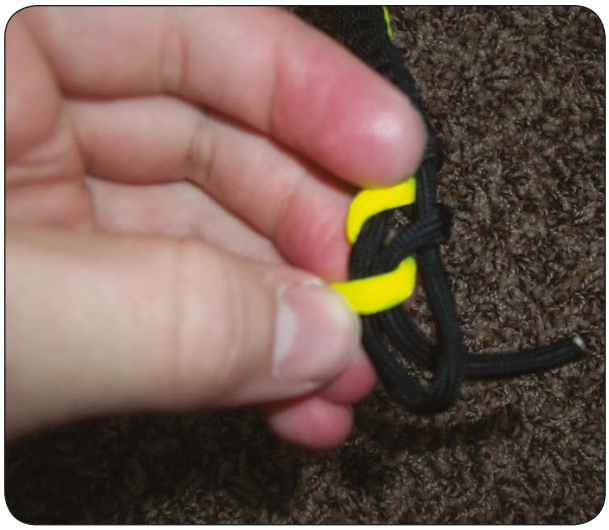












Step 4: Finishing the Bracelet

I somewhat showed you how to do the finishing knot, but just look at the last step. If you tightened the last weave, undo it just a little bit. You will then see a loop. Put the cord that made the loop back through the loop. Then pull it tightly, cut the ends, and melt them. You are now done!

Adjustable Bracelet

By Adambowker98

(http://www.instructables.com/id/How-To-Adjustable-Paracord-Bracelet/)

In this Instructable, I will show you how to make an adjustable paracord bracelet. I will be showing how to make a bracelet adjustable from 7" to 9".

Step 1: Materials

What you'll need for this project:

- Up to three colors of paracord (read on for lengths; I'm using white as the core, red as the middle, and black as the edge)
- Lighter to burn the ends
- Scissors to cut things
- Ruler to measure things

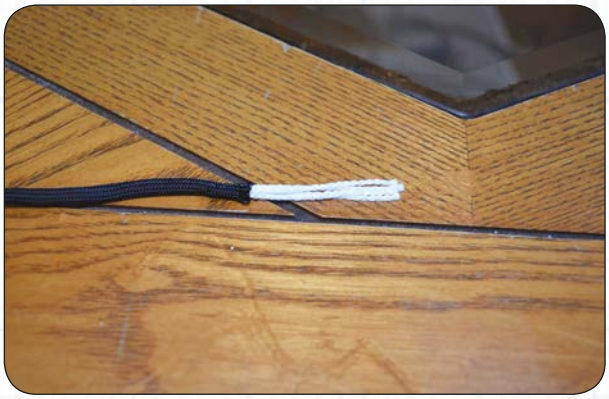
Step 2: Cut the Core Pieces

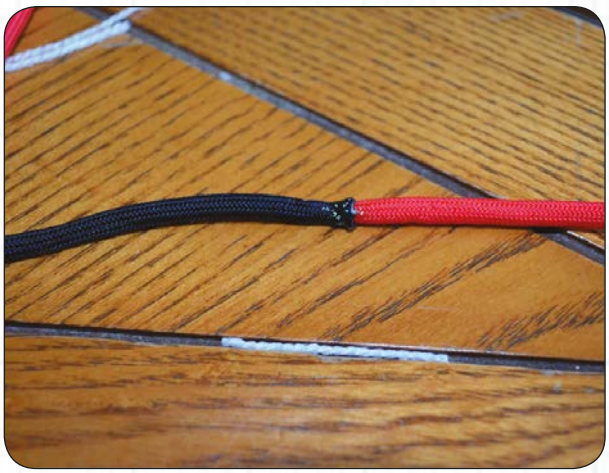
First, cut two pieces of your chosen color about a foot long each. I'm using white. After you cut it, you'll want to burn it a little to prevent fraying later on. Then, tie a knot on one side of each piece of cord as close to the end as you can. Put these pieces aside.

Step 3: Join the Two Colors

If you are using the same color cord for the outer and inner edges, cut a piece about 7½ feet long and skip this step. If you are using two colors, read on.

Cut one piece of each color to about 3½ to 4 feet long. Burn all the ends except for one end of one of the pieces. On the piece you didn't burn, pull the inner strands out about an inch. Then, take one side of the other color and put it into the other piece. (I know this is kind of confusing—just follow the pictures.) Then, burn all the little frayed pieces of the color you pulled the strands from to attach the two colors. Now go take a break and drink some root beer to clear your mind from all the confusing stuff.



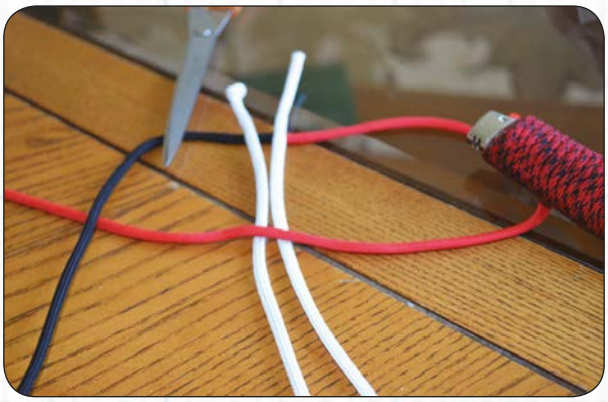


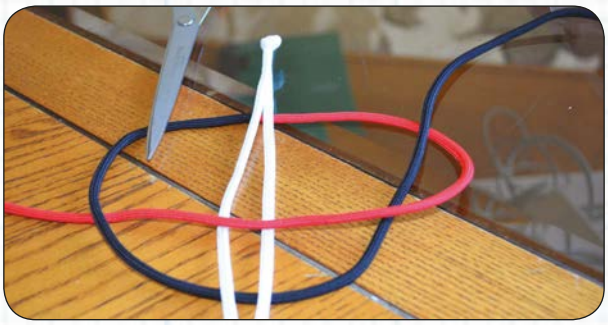
Step 4: Starting the Cobra Weave

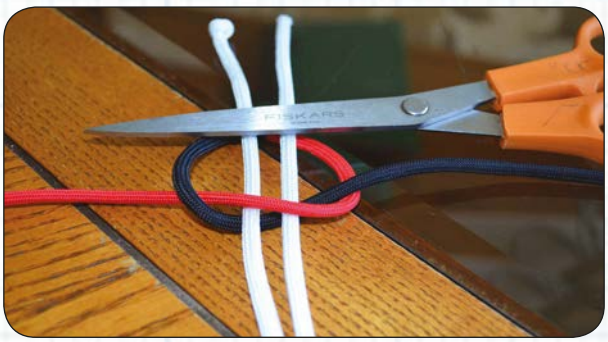
Okay, here's the tricky part. Get your core strands and put them side-by-side on the table, with the knots on opposite sides. Put the burned part of the two colors (or the center of the one color) underneath the white strands. Take one side (the side you want to be the inner color) and bring it across the core strands, keeping the center (or burned part) directly under the white strands. Then take the other side (the side you want to be the outer edge) and put it on top of the first strand. Then take that second strand and bring it under the white strands and through the loop you made with the first strand. Use something (or someone) to hold the center of the strands under the once more, then go to the next step. You need to

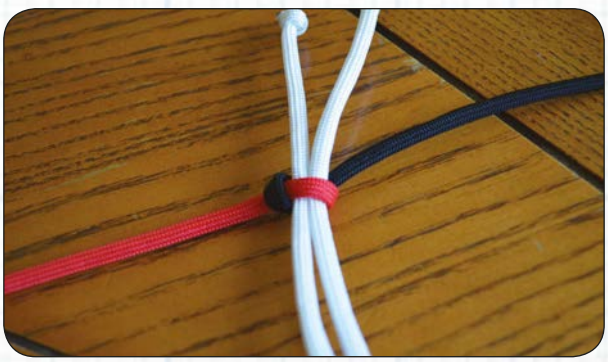
remember (if using one color) to always alternate the strand you bring across first, and (if using two colors) to always bring the same color over first.

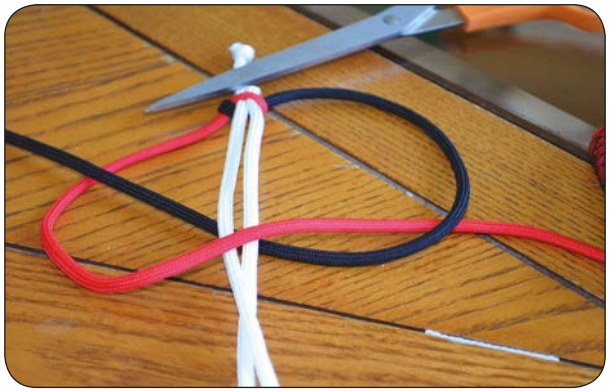
The pictures are very helpful on this step!





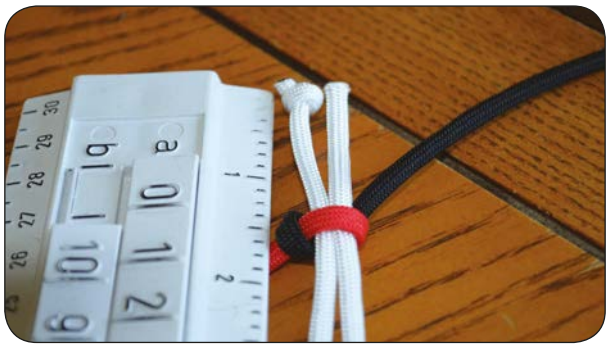






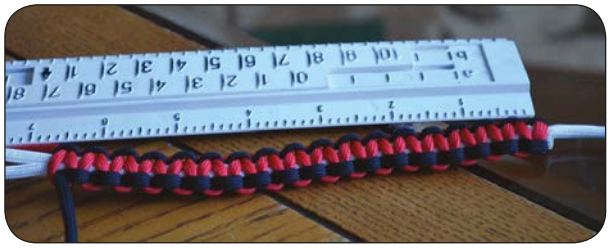
Step 5: Fix the Core Strands

Now you should have two knots, and it should look like the first picture. Now you need to get out your ruler and measure some stuff. The distance from the knot on one of the core strands to the beginning of your cobra weave should be at least 1½", but no more than 2". Once you have this right, take the strand that doesn't have a knot on it and pull it almost all the way to the start of your cobra weave. Cut a little off and burn it to prevent it from coming undone. You should now have one strand coming from the top of the cobra weave and one melted to the first knot.



Step 6: Continue the Weave

Continue doing cobra knots until you reach about 6½" or 6¾".



Step 7: Fix the Core Strands Again

If you started out with the same size core strands, then one should now be a little longer than the other one. Take the shorter one and cut it close to the end of your knots and melt it down so it doesn't come undone. Now untie the knot at the end of the longer core strand. Measure about 1½" on it and re-tie the knot there. The top and bottom of your bracelet should look about the same now.

Step 8: Finish the Cobra Weave

Now, cut off the excess paracord from each side of the cobra weave, melt the ends down with the lighter, and save the extra pieces.

At this point, you can cut off any excess string on the end of the knots to make the knot wind up all the way at the end.

Step 9: Make It Adjustable

Here's how to make it adjustable:

- First, join the two extra pieces of paracord you cut off in the last step (just repeat step 3 with the smaller pieces), or if you were using just one color, you can use a piece of that one color about a foot long.
- Bend the bracelet back until the ends of the core strands are touching the opposite side of the bracelet. Have someone hold these strands in place.
- Begin a cobra weave in the open space over the core strands. Do only two knots, tighten them really tight, and then cut off the ends and melt them down.

Step 10: Admire Your Masterpiece

Your adjustable paracord bracelet is now complete!

Oat Spike Bracelet

By BenjiDaa

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Oat-Spike-Paracord-Bracelet/)

The oat spike paracord bracelet has a very nice looking weave. It is not very difficult to make. When you get the hang of making the bracelet, it becomes a very quick and easy job. If you ever get stuck in the wilderness or if there is a zombie apocalypse you can unravel this bracelet and then have 12 feet total of cord.

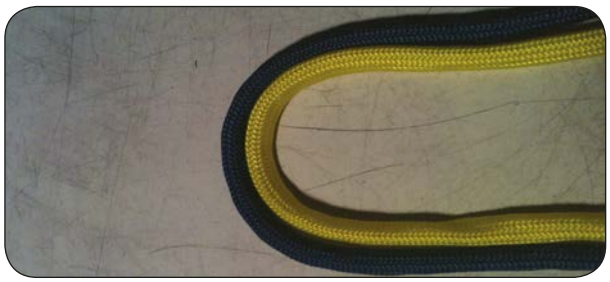
Step 1: Supplies

For this instructable you'll need:

- Two 6' lengths of paracord
- Scissors
- Lighter

Step 2

In this Instructable I will be referencing the cords by their color. Start by lining up your cords as shown in the photo below, with the yellow cord below the blue cord and the middle of the cords at the peak of the rainbow.



Step 3

Pull the yellow cord over the blue cord as shown.

Step 4

Pull the left blue cord across the yellow cords. Then pull the right blue cord over that as shown. Now pull the yellow cords through the holes that are noted in the photo, then pull it tight.

Step 5

Drape the yellow cords over the blue as shown.

Step 6

Repeat steps 4 and 5 until the bracelet reaches your desired length.

Step 7

Snip off the blue cords and burn them.

Step 8

With the yellow cords, tie it into the below knot, snip off the extra, and then burn the snipped part.

Step 9

You are now done. Enjoy the bracelet.

Heart Pendant

By hotmetalmel
(http://www.instructables.com/id/Single-paraCord-Heart-Pendant/)

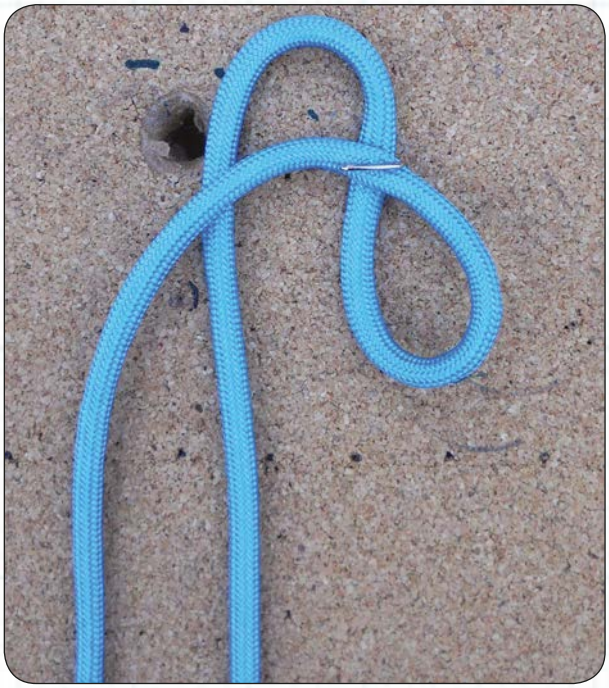
Using a single piece of paracord less than three feet in length you can make a heart-shaped pendant necklace for Valentine's Day.

Step 1

Fold the cord in half, forming a bight.

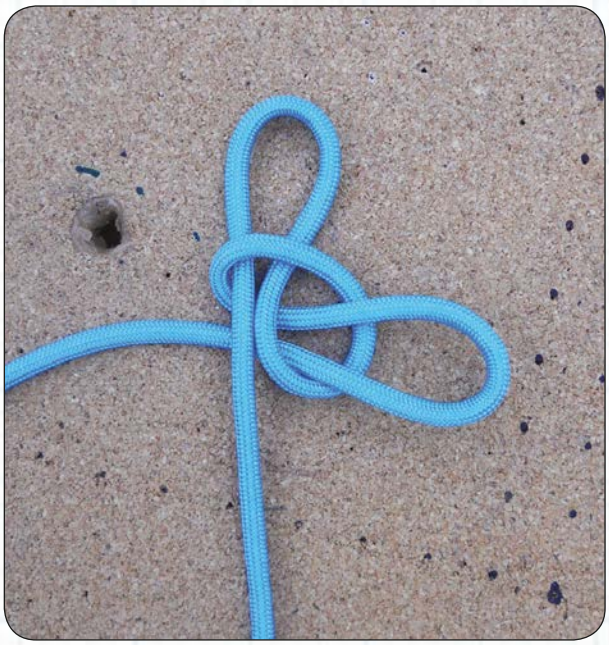
Step 2

Taking the right-hand cord, make a counter-clockwise (CC) loop and lay the working end over the left cord parallel to each other.



Step 3

Still working with the same cord, form another bight and tuck it behind the original left cord and through the CC loop from step 2.



Step 4

Firm up the knot by pulling on each loop then taking out a bit of slack from the loose ends below. I

placed a quarter for scale. Picture should match yours so far.

Step 5

Make another bight from the right-hand cord and tuck around the back and through opposite loop on the left continuing through to the other side (going through both loops with the bight).

Step 6

Make sure bight is through both loops.

Step 7

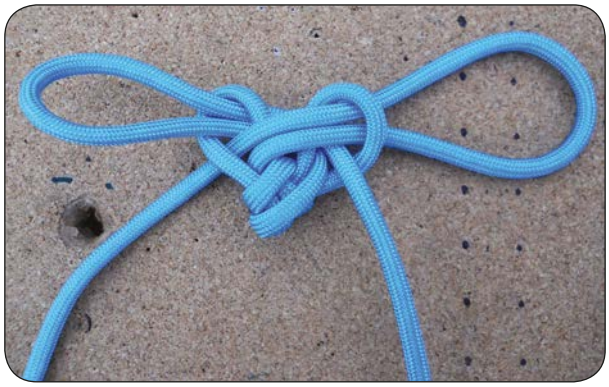
Take up the slack.

Step 8

Taking now the left cord, bight and tuck UNDER the first bight around and towards the back . . .

Step 9

. . . bringing the bight around and OVER the other cord/bight part.



Step 10

To snug up the shape, begin by pulling bottom right part (pictured at bottom of heart)

Step 11

Phase 2 of taking up slack . . .

Step 12

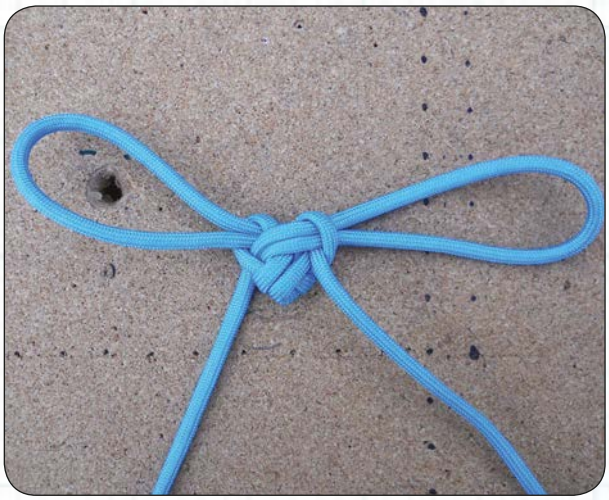
Turn piece over, with the larger side of the heart now on the right.

Step 13

Repeat steps 10 to 12 to tighten opposite side.

Step 14

Like so . . .



Step 15

Pull both bights through like so, leaving the lines coming out horizontally.

Step 16

Take left cord (coming from behind) and follow (above) the cord in front so both are coming out the right side.

Step 17

Turn piece over so that both cords are now on the left.

Step 18

Taking the lower of the two cords, repeat the same procedure as in steps 15 and 16. Cords should be horizontal, as in the picture of step 15 (only now with the double wrap inside).

Step 19

Add a hitch to one side.

Step 20

Tighten.

Step 21

Turn over and repeat same hitch.

Step 22

Add whichever knot you choose to close it. I like double fisherman's knot because it's adjustable, but any knot will do. The last thing to do is give it to a loved one.

Necklace

By chewy3939
(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-Necklace/)

This is a necklace I made from 550 paracord. I had seen some necklaces that people made, but they all seemed too big or not practical. I wanted something like a Phiten. So I searched the Internet for a weave and came up with the 4-Strand Round Weave. I had never seen a paracord necklace made this way, so I just went to it and this is what I got. It's not terribly difficult, and it's pretty fun. Although it looks good, it can also be taken apart and used in a survival situation.

Step 1: Materials

For this project you will need:

- Paracord (read on for length)
- Scissors (or other cutting device)
- A lighter to fuse the rope

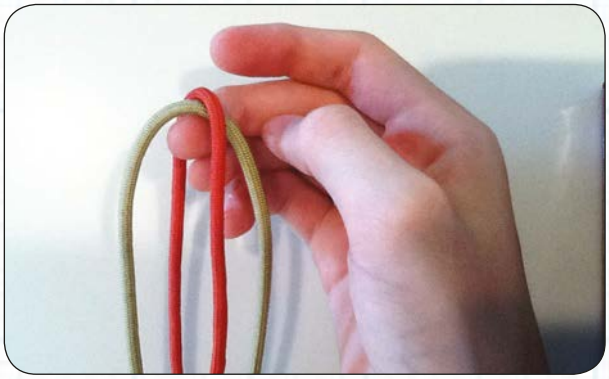
Step 2: Measure Your Neck

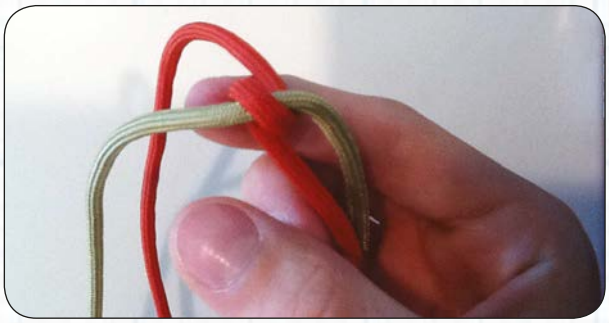
To measure your neck, take a piece of scrap paracord (or other string) and wrap it around your neck. Figure out how you want the necklace to fit and adjust the rope accordingly. I went for more of a choker-style necklace, but it's up to you. Mark the length and measure the cord.

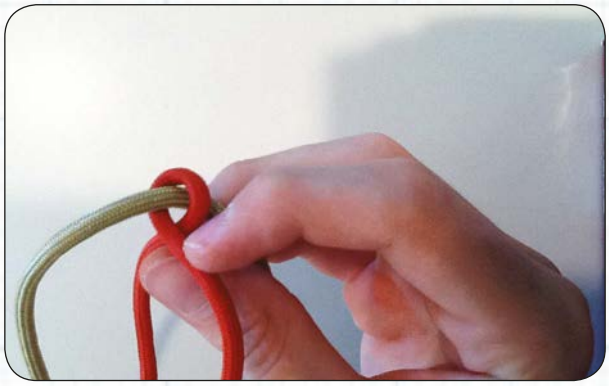
Now, to find out the amount of paracord you'll be using, use this formula: 1 inch of necklace = 4 ½ inches of each color of paracord. For example, I'm making a 15 inch necklace, so I'll need 67½ inches of each color to make the necklace. I would also recommend adding half a foot to a foot to each measurement just so you have some wiggle room. Cut and fuse the rope.

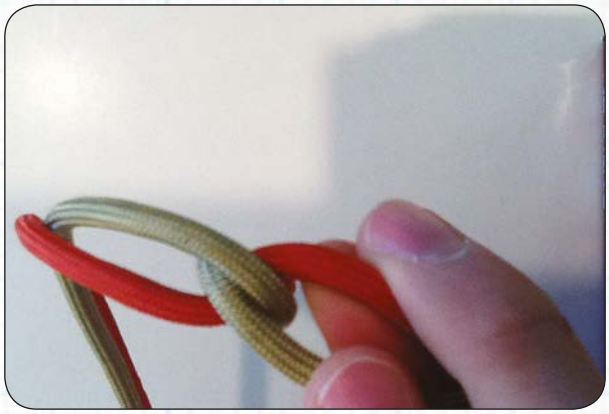
Step 3: Start the Weave

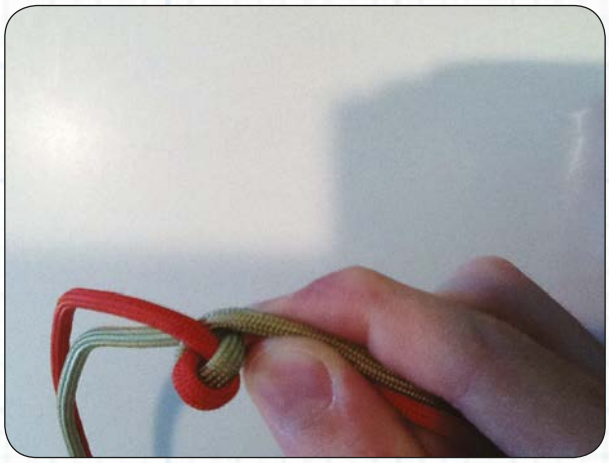
Now to start the weave, fold both the ropes in half in the center. Now lay the ropes over each other. Begin by passing both ends of rope 1 (the red rope) under rope 2 (the tan one). Pull tight! This is the key in the weave. *Always* keep tension on the weave! Now, pass rope 2 under rope 1. Continue with this pattern. I hold the rope with the unwoven strands below me (I find it much easier). After you have part of the necklace finished, stop weaving and pull the top of rope 1 and form a loop. The loop's diameter should be about ¾ inch.

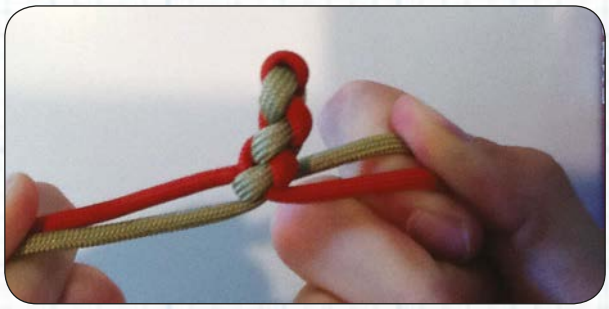


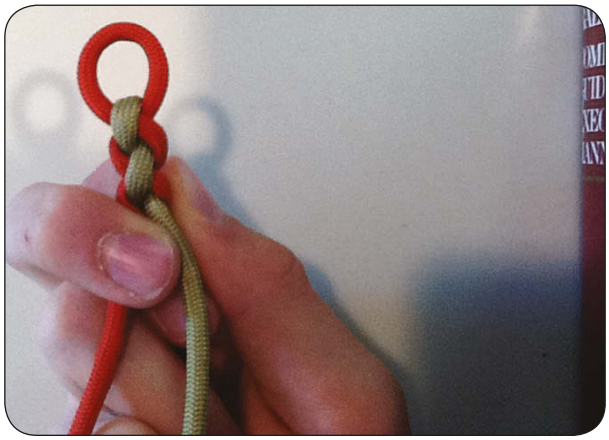












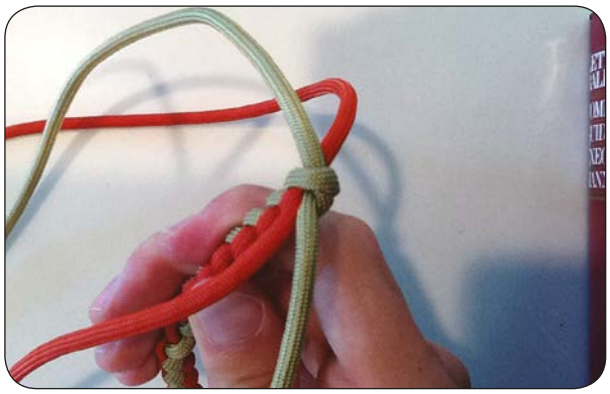
Step 4: Keep Going!

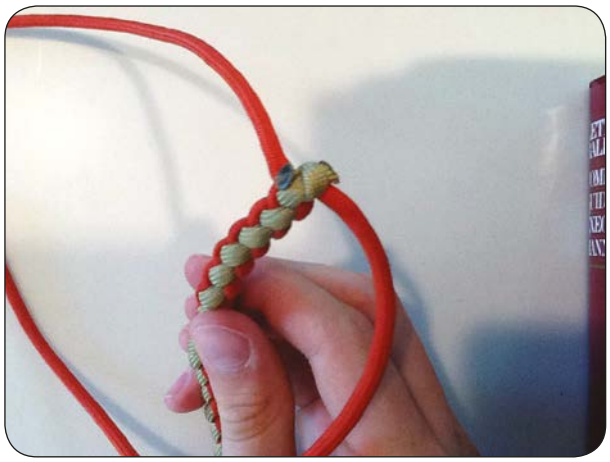
Continue the weave until you have reached the desired length.

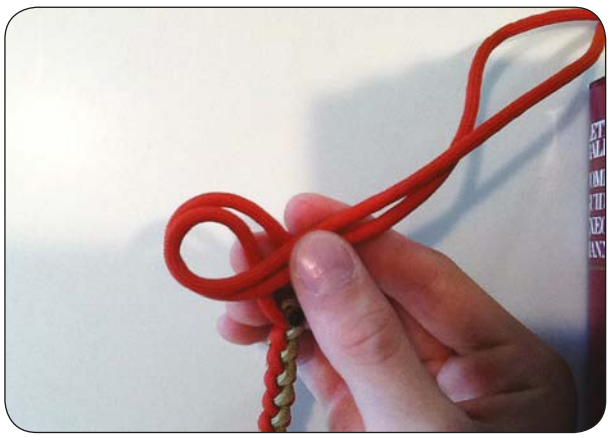
Step 5: Finishing the Necklace

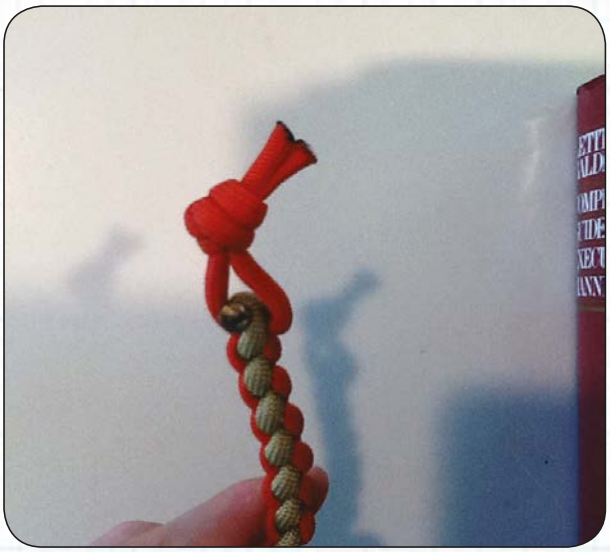
Now, this is the tricky part—take rope 2 and tie an overhand knot. Make it tight! Now cut rope

2 for fusing. When I fused the rope, I got the end hot enough so it was a liquid but not runny or on fire. I then took the side of my scissors and flattened the end of the rope. When you do this, do it as fast as you can without being reckless. What you should have now are the ends of rope 1. Now, take the ends of rope 2 and tie an overhand knot with both strands. Now, cut and fuse the ends of the rope and . . . you now have your very own paracord necklace!









Step 6: The Finished Product

This is the finished product. It can be used as a stylish necklace or as a survival necklace as well.

Ring

By clintonmc

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Simple-Paracord-Ring/)

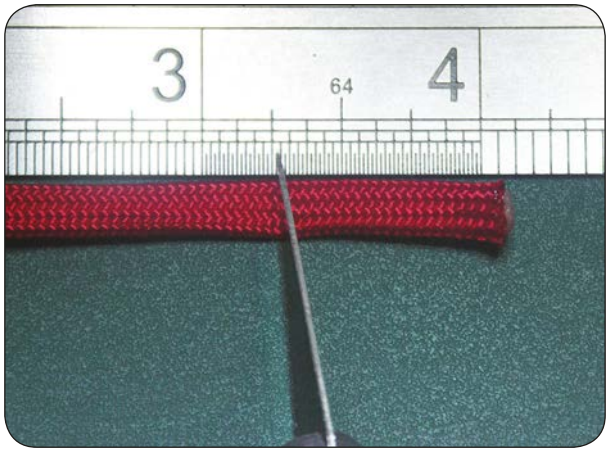
If you are anything like me, you love to make things out of paracord, but hate to waste anything. This simple Instructable should show you how you can use those annoying bits of paracord that are often left at the end of making just about anything, but are too short to be of any use.

These rings are purely decorative, you won't see them getting Bear Grylls out of a tight spot anytime soon.

Step 1: Materials

Step 2: Size and Measure Your Cord

Wrap the paracord around your desired finger to get the size right. Measure this against your ruler for future reference. Make sure that any ends that are sealed or tatty are not counted in your measurements as these will be cut off. Once you have the right length for your finger, add an extra ⅛" to ¼", which will be used in the joining of the ends.



Step 3: Cutting and Gutting

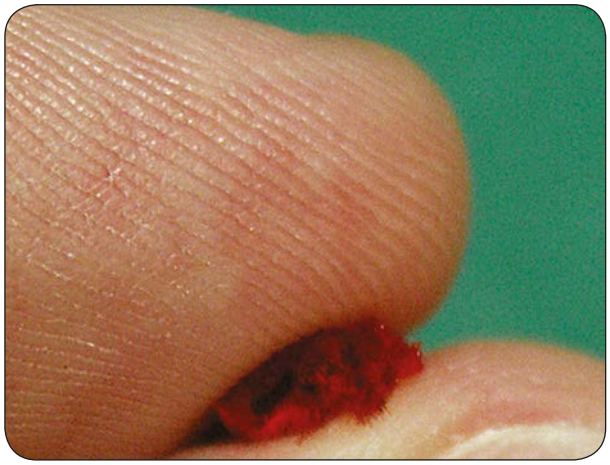
Go ahead and remove the excess paracord. If the other end is sealed or tatty remove it as well. Pull out and discard the central fibers. Make sure you do not reseal either end at this stage.

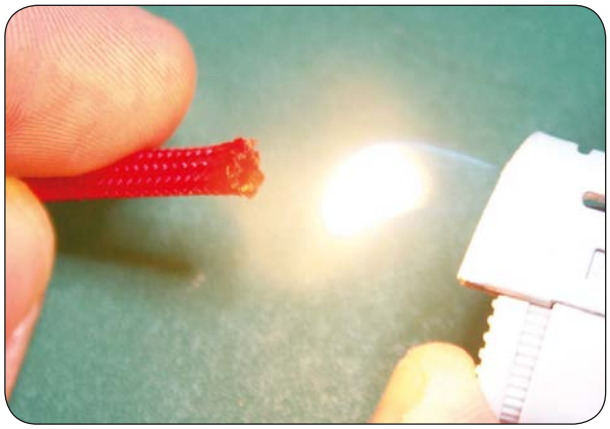
Step 4: Shaping and Sealing the Ends

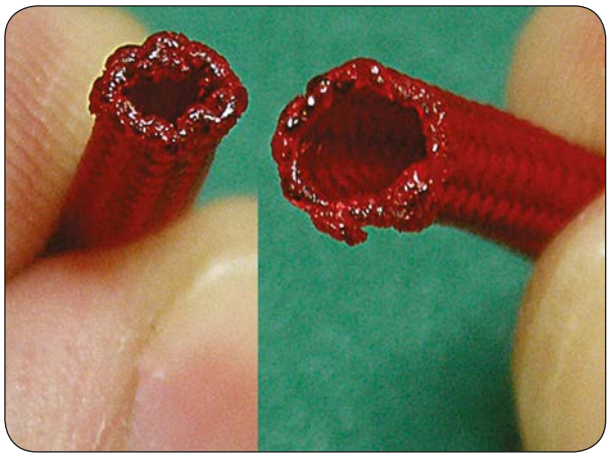
You should now have a hollow tube with two unsealed ends. Roll one end between your thumb and forefinger to try to close it down as much as possible. With your flame, lightly melt this end, sealing it.

Careful: molten paracord can be painful.

When sealed, the end should be as small as possible, but it does not need to be completely closed. With the other end, use your tweezers or hemostat to lightly tease the opening and again lightly seal it with your flame. There should now be one smaller nearly closed end and one widely open end.







Step 5: Closing the Ring

Tuck the smaller end into the open end. Use your tweezers to push it in further. Check the size on your finger to make sure it's not too loose or tight.

Step 6: Sealing the Bond

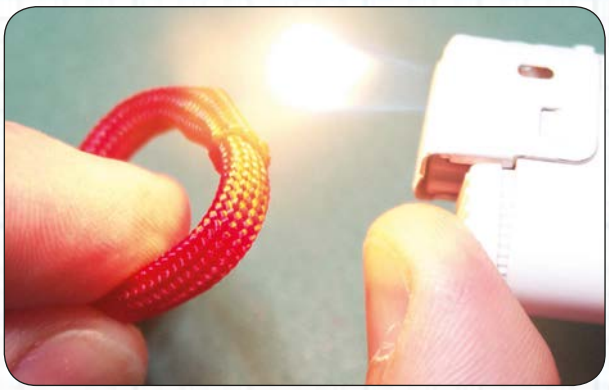
When you are happy with the size, use the flame and gently heat the mouth of the join; this should cause it to shrink slightly, gripping the ends together.

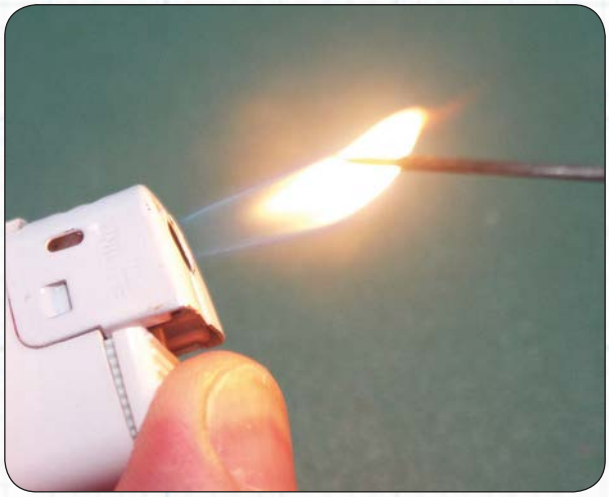
You can now also clean and flatten any bumps around the rim by melting and flattening with the flat part of your blade.

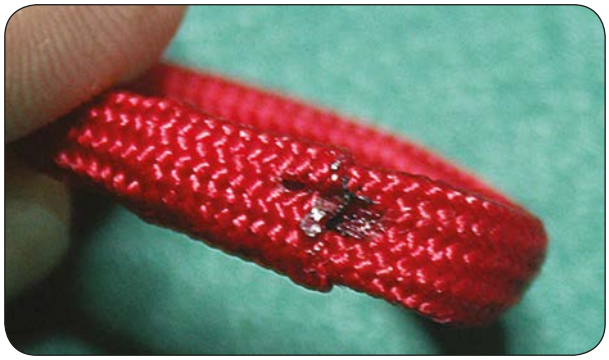
Do a final size check, as you should still be able to adjust it at this time. It's possible that the bond will now be strong enough.

However, if you wish strengthen the bond, heat up your spike/wire until it glows. (Do I really need to tell you to be careful with this?) Insert it into the bond for a very short time (a second or less), remove the spike/wire, and quickly pinch the join, which should melt and bond the two ends together.

This may leave an unsightly mark, but twisting the ring will move the mark to the inside of the ring, hiding it when worn.







Step 7: All Done

Provided you have not made it too tight, you shouldn't even feel the join when wearing the ring.

They also have a little stretch to them, allowing you to wear more than one on the same finger comfortably. This allows you to match your favorite colors or show support for your sports teams, school, or country.

Monkey's Fist

By SonicDaHedgehog
(http://www.instructables.com/id/Monkeys-Fist/)

In this Instructable, I will be showing you how to make a paracord monkey's fist.

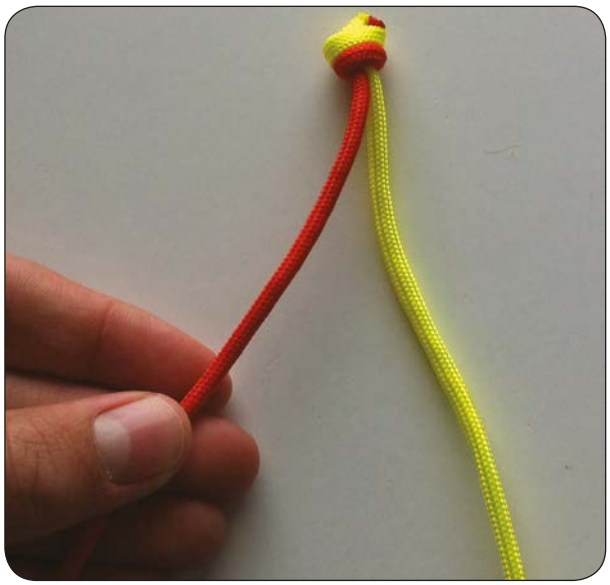
Step 1: What You Need

To make this paracord monkey's fist, you need:

- Scissors
- A lighter
- Two 2½ foot pieces of paracord

Step 2: Tie a Knot

Start by tying the tips of the two cords together with an overhand knot. Tighten the knot until firm. Once done tightening, carefully snip off the cord ends above the knot and melt them with a lighter so it stays and doesn't unravel.

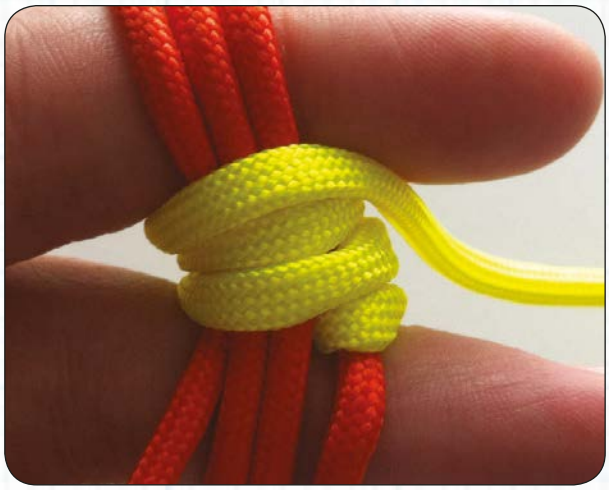


Step 3: Wrap the Cord

Slide your fingers down one of the cords approximately 15 inches and start circling the cord around two split fingers. Wrap around three times.

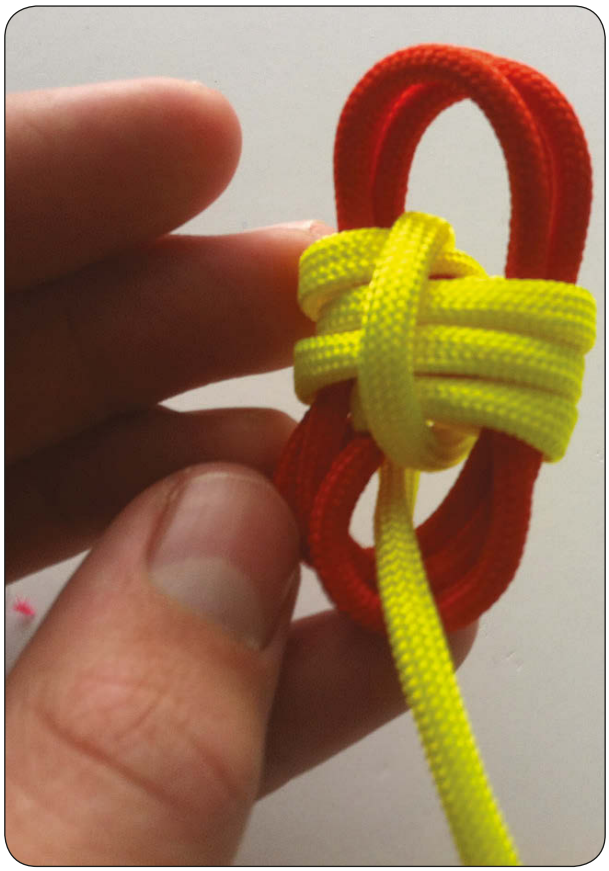
Step 4: Create Second Set of Coils

Insert the overhand knot into the center of the vertical coils, then start circling the running end away from you and around the vertical coils. Circle around three times, creating a second set of coils.



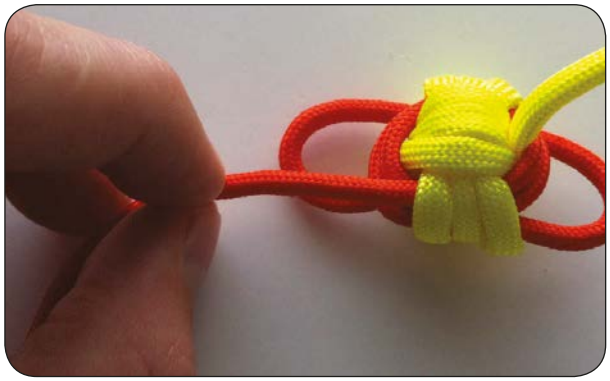
Step 5: Keep Coiling

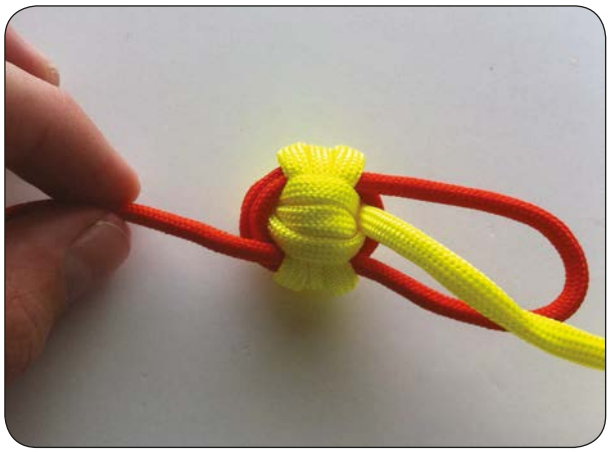
Slide the tie off your fingers. Then start circling the running end away from you and around the horizontal coils. Make sure to start circling from left to right, until you have made three circles, vertical to the horizontal coils.

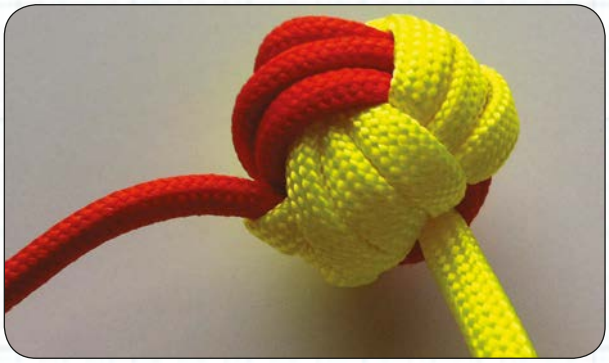


Step 6: Make Firm

Adjust the cords until the piece is firm, or until all three sets of coils are snugly wrapped around the overhand knot.







Step 7: Singe Ends

Carefully snip and singe the Monkey's Fist ends for a standalone piece, or leave a tether.

Step 8: Monkey's Fist

Here are some other Monkey's Fists I've made.

Wearable Accessories

Key Chain

Heart Key Fob

Cross-Knot Lanyard

Snake-Knot Lanyard

Eyeglass Lanyard

Watchband

Belt

Germ Grenade

Laptop Harness

Sandals

Helmet

Key Chain

By AkParacord

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-Keychain-1/)

To make a paracord key chain, you will need about 3 feet of paracord, a key ring, scissors, and a lighter. It will take about 10 minutes to make.

Step 1:

Attach the paracord to the key ring, making sure that both paracord tails are pointing outward. You can leave an inch or so loop at the end.

Step 2:

Lay one piece of paracord across the top, about an inch from the ring. This will be the center color of the paracord keychain.

Step 3:

Now bring the second piece of paracord over the top of the first, around the back, and up through the hole made by the first piece. Note: the color of the center piece of paracord is the color of the sides, on the opposite sides of the paracord bracelet.

Step 4:

Now pull both paracord tails tight, evenly, and repeat steps 2 through 4 until there's about an inch and a half of paracord left (or however long you want it).

Step 5:

If you have a paracord needle, bring it through the loop and into the center of two stitches. Next, cut and melt the ends. Your paracord keychain should look something like this:

Heart Key Fob

By tbosen

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-Heart-Key-Fob/)

Here's how to make a paracord heart for someone for Valentine's Day. It is very simple to make. You can purchase all the items needed for the project at most any craft store.

Step 1: The Items You Will Need

- 3'10" of 550 paracord color of your choice
- Swivel clip plastic or metal
- 6" of a different color paracord of your choice
- Larger needle
- Lighter, matches, or some way to burn the paracord

Step 1: Braiding the Paracord

Take the 3'10" price of paracord and fold it in half. Slide the loop through the swivel clip and loop the ends through the loop and pull. From the clip measure out 3" and do the first stitch, which is the cobra stitch. Braid until you reach the clip

Step 2: Sealing the Ends

Take a lighter, candle, or match and melt the ends to seal the paracord so it doesn't come undone.

Step 3: Find the Middle

After you have completed the braid and sealed the ends you need to find the middle. To do this just count the side with the even amount of stitches, starting counting on the outside and working your way inside. Once you have found the middle two stitches, keep your fingers on them.

Step 4: Putting the Heart into the Braid

Now that you have the two middle stitches, take the large needle, stick it through the two middle stitches, and wiggle the needle around to make a gap wide enough to stick the other 6" piece of different-color paracord through the hole on both sides. Then string it through the bottom of the braid and pull tight.

Step 5: Finish Burning

Once you have completed the heart, you need to seal it and then you're done. To do that just take the bottom ends, cut them, and burn them. Then, tuck them under the stitch above it. And now you're done, so give it to a loved one or yourself!

Cross-Knot Lanyard

By Stormdrane

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Cross-Knot-Paracord-Lanyard/)

This Instructable will show how to make a paracord lanyard using the cross knot and snake knot. The lanyard can be used as a wallet chain, to secure a key chain, keyring, knife, multitool, flashlight, cell phone, camera, binoculars, compass, and other assorted pocketable gadgets, gear, and gizmos.

The cross knot can also be found under different names from other online and book references, such as: the Chinese crown knot, Chinese cross, Japanese crown knot, Japanese success knot, rustler's knot, friendship knot, and knot #808 in *The Ashley Book of Knots*.

You can use the loop end of the lanyard to attach it to your item and use the clip end to secure to a belt loop, bag, pack, etc. Or run a belt through the lanyard's loop and use the attachment to clip onto your gadget, gear, gizmo, and so on. Longer versions could be used as a pet leash for your dog, cat, pot belly pig, iguana, ferret, or other assorted leashable rodents and varmints.

Step 1: Supplies

For this project, you'll need 10 feet of paracord, scissors, swivel snap hook, and a lighter. Optional supplies are hemostats, tape measure, and your own choice of attachments, like split ring, swivel clip, carabiner, snap shackle, etc.

I used 10 feet of paracord to make a finished lanyard/wallet chain of about 2½ feet in length. You can use more or less to make one of your own preferred length.

There are many online sources for paracord, available in different lengths and color choices, and it can sometimes be found at local sporting goods outlets and Army/Navy Surplus stores. Various attachments can also be found online and at local retail establishments, and you may even scavenge them from key rings/key chains, pet leashes, etc. that you already have.

Step 2

Find the center of your length of cord and form a bight, which will be the loop end of your lanyard.

Step 3

To tie the cross knot you›re going to bring the strand of cord on the right over the left strand, back under to the right, and back under again to the left, making an "S" shape as shown.

Step 4

Now bring the left strand up under the "S" shape through the top loop as shown.

Step 5

Bring the strand back down over the first two parts of the "S" shape and under the bottom as shown.

Step 6

Tighten up the knot by carefully pulling on each of the working ends and loop ends of the cord. You can adjust the size of the lanyard's loop by working slack from the loop end to decrease its size, or from the working ends to increase the loop's size. I've kept the loop at about 2 inches in length, so that a belt will fit through it, but you can make it larger or smaller to your preference. You can also check that the working ends of the paracord are equal in length at this point, and work slack through the knot to even them up if needed.

Note: The other side of the knot looks different, with the cross pattern, as shown.

Step 7

Now you can tie the next knot in the lanyard the same way as the first. After tying the next knot, work the slack through the knot until you have about 1 inch of space between them, then tighten and continue with the next knot. Note that the knots look different on each side, front/back, and that you tie each facing the same way, or alternate them if you choose.

Continue making knots until you have about 1 foot of cord left with each end of the working strands.

Step 8

Now you will add your attachment, like the swivel snap hook shown, putting both strands through the swivel eye to begin tying the snake knot.

Step 9

Bring the right strand under the cords, then up over them as shown.

Step 10

Now take the left strand over across the other strands, back behind and under the cords, and up through the right strand loop, as shown. Then tighten.

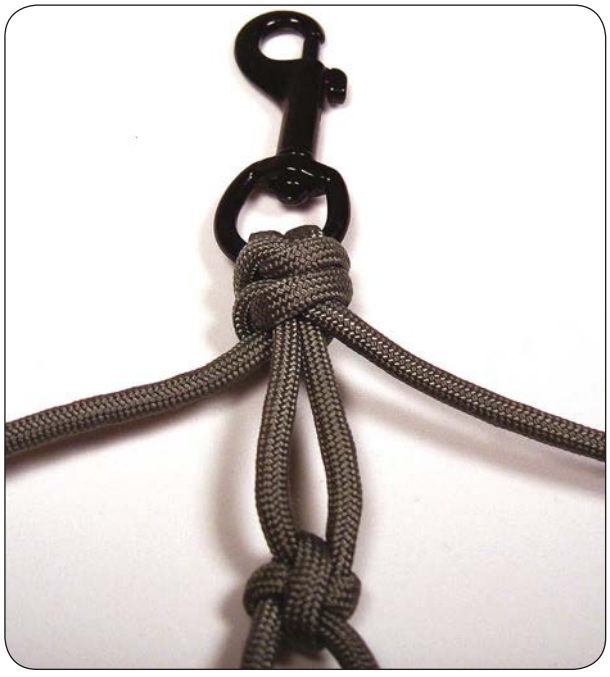
Step 11

Take the right strand under and behind the cords then bring it back through the tightened knot, alongside itself as shown, and tighten. This is where hemostats come in handy in tying this knot, helping as you work the cord through the previously tightened part of the knot. It can be done without hemostats, but requires tightening/loosening of the knots with just your fingertips.

Step 12

Turn the lanyard over so the other side of the knot is facing up. The working strand now on the right side will be brought under the cords, back up and down through the parallel strands of the knot as shown, then tightened. Continue this process, flipping the lanyard over, taking the right strand under and back up around and through the parallel cords, and tightening. Continue until you run out of cord or reach the cross knot.

You'll now trim off any excess cord and quick melt the ends of the strands to prevent fraying to finish.



Snake-Knot Lanyard

By Stormdrane

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-wrist-lanyard-made-with-the-snake-knot/)

This Instructable will show how to make a wrist lanyard using paracord and the snake knot. The lanyard can be used to secure a key chain, knife, multi-tool, flashlight, cell phone, camera, binoculars, compass, etc.

Step 1: Supplies

You'll need about 4½ feet of paracord (you may use other types of cordage if desired). The paracord I used is from the Supply Captain. I left the inner strands in the paracord, but you can remove them if preferred. If done in one color, it will be one continuous 4½ foot length; if done in two colors, you'll need 3 feet for the primary color, which includes the wrist section, and 1½ feet for the second color, which will show in the snake knot. Also used are scissors, tape measure or ruler, lighter, hemostats or needle nose pliers (not necessary, but they make it much easier), and a swivel clip, key ring, snap hook, cell phone lariat, carabiner, or whatever attachment you prefer to use.

Step 2: Attaching Two Colors of Paracord

If using two colors of paracord, you will insert one color about ½ inch into the other color. You may remove a small amount of the paracord's inner strands by pulling them out, trimming with scissors, and pulling the paracord's outer sheath back over the strands, leaving room to insert the other color. For various projects, I've used three different methods for attaching two colors of paracord: melting, sewing, and gluing. The choice is yours; I usually sew them together. It doesn't matter as long as it's a good connection. It will be hidden under the first knot.

Step 3: Find the Center of the Length of Paracord

Take the center of the length of cord and bring it through the attachment. I'm using a swivel clip. For this tutorial I'm measuring the wrist loop at about 10 inches from the attachment. The connection of the two colors will be just on the other side at this point.

Step 4: Making the Snake Knot

The snake knot will be made around the wrist-loop section of paracord, the loop strands being the "core" of the knot. I've added a series of photos showing the steps I use. By using two colors, you'll see that I flip the lanyard over after making each knot, so that I'm working with the cord on the right side of the lanyard. I bring it under all the other cords, working the hemostats under the previously tightened knot and pulling the cord back through, then tightening up the knot while keeping the cord from twisting and working it up against the previous knot. Again flipping the work over, you'll see two parallel cords of the same color which will be split with the cord on the right going under, around, and pulled through with the hemostats, then tightened up. Continue this procedure until you've done about 10 snake knots (you can count them down either side).

Step 5: Count Your Knots

Once you have 10 snake knots you're almost done. You'll notice from the photos of both sides of the lanyard that one side has the snake knots alternating all the way down and the other has a set of parallel knots at the top and bottom of the sequence of knots. You'll always have those at the start and finish of the snake knots. I prefer to have them end up on the same side of the lanyard so one side appears to have a more uniform look, but it's not required.

Step 6: Trim and Melt the Excess Paracord

Use the scissors to trim off the excess cord and quickly melt the ends with a lighter so they don't fray.

Step 7: You're Done!

You can make a range of variations using less or more cord and knots. Shorten the loop for a double-ended key chain or make the loop longer for use as a neck lanyard—a lanyard break-away connector could be added for the safety conscious. You can also add a wooden bead, skull, cord lock, etc.

Eyeglass Lanyard

By jdtwelve12

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Adjustable-Paracord-Glasses-Lanyard/)

This Instructable describes a method of making a paracord lanyard to help keep your glasses on, or near, your head. Based on your adjustment of the cord, the glasses can either dangle on your chest or be held snugly to the face. This method uses only paracord; some alternative approaches that incorporate additional materials are shown at the end.

Step 1: Materials

Required materials:

- Paracord, about 1 yard (or 95cm)
- Eyeglasses or sunglasses (if you don't have these, well, why bother?)
- Lighter (to singe cord ends)
- Knife or scissors (unless you have really sharp teeth)

Optional materials:

- Plastic cord lock
- Wooden bead

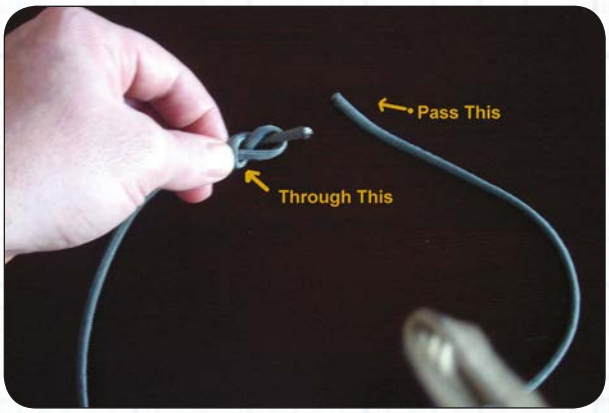
Step 2: Getting Started

Begin with a 3 foot (~1m) length of paracord. Snip it in half and singe the ends so they won't fray.

Next, lay the two pieces parallel to each other on a flat surface.

Step 3: The Figure Eight Knots

You're going to tie two figure eight knots, one in each piece. Start with the right end of the piece nearest you and follow the detailed instructions in the pictures below to tie the knot.

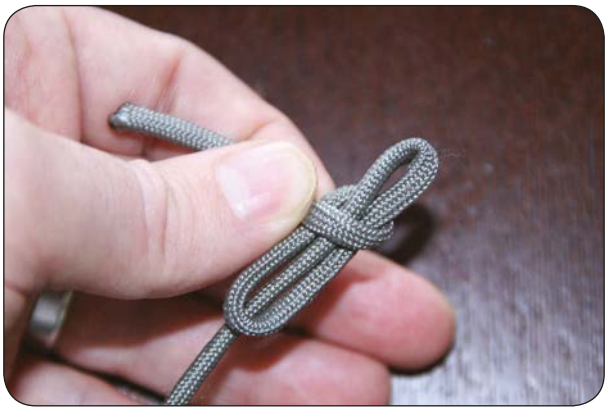


Step 4: Repeat

Now, using the left end of the second cord, tie a figure eight knot around the first piece, just like you did in the previous step. The two knots form the stops at the ends of the joined pieces.

Step 5: About Tightness

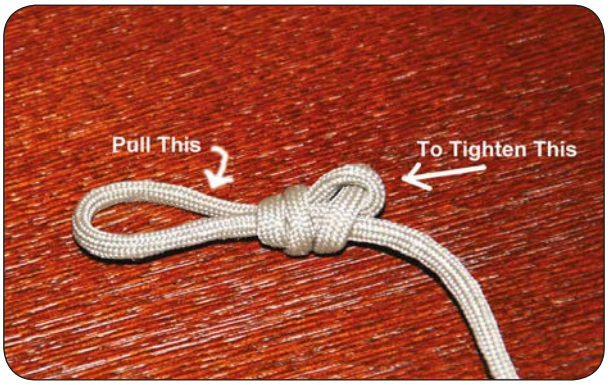
Since the cords need to slide for the adjustment, make sure your figure eights are neither super tight nor too loose. You should be able to gently slide the knots together and apart. This will shorten or lengthen the overall joined piece. If you have unsightly ends dangling from your knots, you can snip and singe them in place.

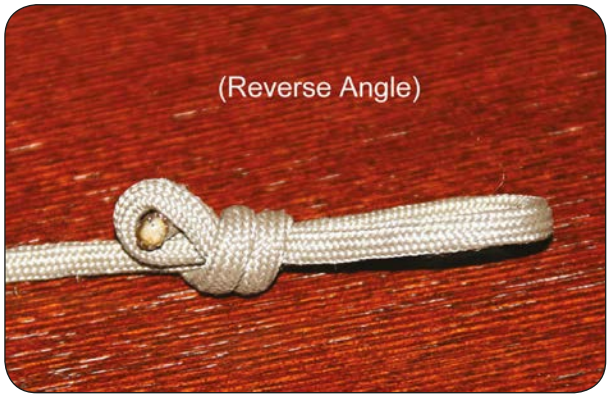


Step 6: Preparing the Ends

This is done by forming a small noose at each end of the joined piece. It's not really a noose because it only has two turns, but otherwise it's pretty much the same knot. To find where your end knots should be placed, pull the two figure eights knots so they're about 6" (15cm) apart and place behind your head. Grab each end just above and behind your ears. This is about where the knot should be. Don't worry about being exact, it's adjustable!

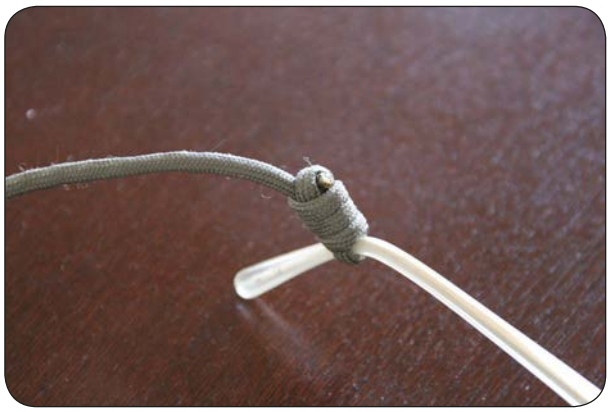
To make the mini-nooses, follow the steps in the pictures.





Step 7: Attach This End

Slip the "noose" over the ear piece of your glasses and tighten. The whole knot should tighten up nicely as you pull on the long end.



Step 8: Repeat

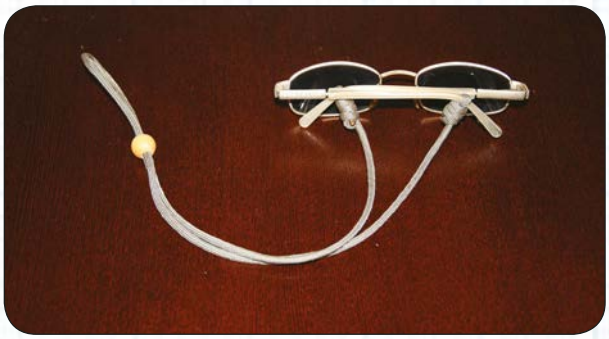
Repeat this process (steps 6 and 7) on the other end of your lanyard. Pretty simple, huh?

Step 9: . . . and You're Done

Ta-da! Remember, by sliding the two figure eight knots together, you can snug the glasses to your face. This can be particularly helpful if someone has irresponsibly let your youngest brother drive the boat you're on. Trust me.

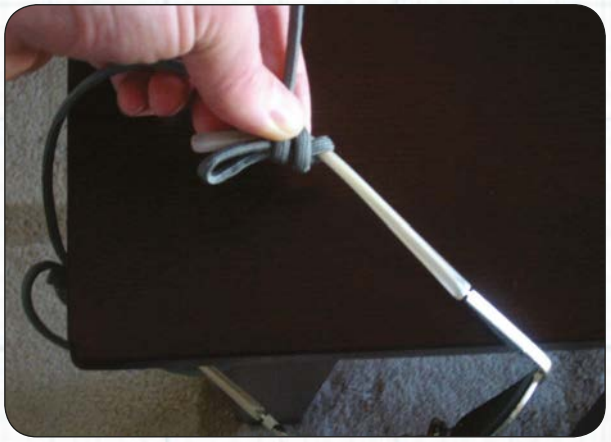
Step 10: But Wait, There's More

If you have an old cord lock, or even a bead with the right aperture, you can forgo the whole figure eight business, keep your cord as a single piece, and use that hardware to adjust your snugness.



Step 11: And That's Not All

If you're feeling fancy, you can attach the cords to your ear pieces so that they don't protrude. Even though it looks a little neater, this makes the cord harder to put on and remove from the glasses, so I opted for the simpler method above.



Step 12: There You Have It . . .

. . . a couple of ways to keep your glasses close at hand!

Watchband

By Stormdrane

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Woven-paracord-braceletwatchband/)

This tutorial will show how to make a paracord bracelet or watchband using a weaving method.

Step 1: Supplies

For this project, you'll need:

- Approximately 10 feet of paracord
- Scissors
- Lighter
- Tape measure
- Hemostats
- Watch
- ⅝" side-release buckle. (I used a ⅝" ITW Nexus contoured side-release buckle, but you can use other less expensive ones like those found at Creative Designworks.)

Paracord can be found at local Army/Navy stores or from various online sources: Supply Captain, Lighthound, Cool Glow Stuff!, eBay, etc.

The actual amount of paracord that will be used depends on your wrist size. My wrist is about 8 ½ inches, and I actually used around 8 or 9 feet after finishing the bracelet/watchband. So using 10 feet is a safe estimate for most folks, since having too much cord is better than coming up short when making your project.

Note: If making a watchband, the watch needs to have about ⅝" space between the lugs (where the watch pins go) so that five strands of paracord will fit.

Step 2: To Begin

Measure about 20 inches from one end of your length of paracord. This is where you'll loop onto one end of your side-release buckle. Once attached, you'll have the longer section, which will be your working end, and the shorter end, which is just attached to the buckle ends and will be tucked in when finishing the bracelet/watchband.

Step 3: Add the Watch and Adjust for Wrist Size

If making this as a watchband, this is where you take the strands of paracord from the looped section of the buckle and run them over the watch pin, under the watch, and over the other watch pins. Then you loop the paracord around the other buckle end twice. At this point, you'll measure the distance between the buckle ends for your wrist size. The distance should be equal to your actual wrist measurement. The weaving process will stretch this original spacing of bracelet/watchband about another inch after tightening as you reach the finishing point.

Note: Don't include the prong section half of the male end of the buckle in your measurement. It is snapped into the female half of the buckle when worn and isn't used in figuring the wrist measurement.

Now bring the cord ends back through the watch pins, alongside your first pass, and around the starting buckle end.

Note: If you're just making a paracord bracelet, you'll just be going from one end of the buckle to the other without adding the watch.

Step 4: Begin Weaving

Now you will begin weaving the long working end of your paracord. The shorter end will be left out until it's time to finish the bracelet/watchband and tuck it into the weave. This weaving process is called "weaving with three warps." You'll be going around the outer cord with your working strand, under the center two cords (which you'll treat as one cord), and around the other outer cord. You weave it back over the center two strands and around the outer, continuing this process, back and forth. Try not to leave too much slack as you go to keep the weave uniform. Every couple of weaves, push your work up towards the starting buckle end to tighten.

Step 5: Threading the Watch

Once you've reached the point where your watch will be centered, push the watch tight against the woven cord and bring your working strand through the pin alongside the other cords under the watch, and back through the other pin.

Note: If making the bracelet, there's no watch in the way, so just keep weaving.

Step 6: Continue on the Other Side of the Watch

Continue weaving the paracord, keeping a uniform look and tightening as you go. A pair of hemostats can help work the cord around as you get close to the buckle end, making the last couple of weaves.

Step 7: Finishing Up

To finish up, you'll take the working strand around one of the outer cords, so it's coming through the underside of the bracelet/watchband.

Check for a good fit on your wrist at this point. If it's too loose or too tight, untie, adjust your starting measurement to be longer or shorter to correct, and try again. I have to do this myself sometimes.

Take your hemostats and work them through about three of the center weaves, towards the buckle end. Grasp the working strand and pull it back

through the center weaves. Trim the end with your scissors, quickly melt the end to prevent the cord from fraying, and tuck it under the weave. Now do the same with the shorter end of cord and you're done. If you measure again, you'll see that the finished length is about 1 inch longer than the starting measurement. This will vary depending on your tightening of the weave as you go, but should make for a loose/comfortable fit. Enjoy!

Note: Anyone who has worn a nylon/paracord bracelet or watchband knows it can get dirty and smell funky after some use. I use an old soft-bristle toothbrush to scrub with soap and water in the sink to clean it (while it's on the watch—hopefully yours is water resistant/waterproof), and let it air dry overnight.

A note on paracord shrinkage: Ubraidit.com mentions that paracord may shrink as much as 10% to 12% (especially black and kelly green), so they recommend soaking the cord first. They note that it's the inner strands that shrink, not the outer sheath. I believe they use 450 or 650 grade paracord, which I think has a few loose fibrous polyester filler cords instead of the usual seven twisted nylon strands, found in Type III 550 mil-spec paracord, which isn't supposed to shrink up. I've mostly used the mil-spec-type paracord, so if it's shrunk on me, it's not noticeable.

Belt

By mobiobi

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-Belt-With-Carabiner-Buckle/)

This is what you end up with: a 1 ¾ inch wide paracord belt with a removable 3000 lb carabiner at one end and a 2500 lb triangle D-ring at the other. The webbing should be good for around 7000 lb, with the seven down and back runs. The whole belt comes apart with a quick undo of the knot hidden behind the D-ring, giving you just over 100 feet of paracord.

The first picture is most of what you need to make one, more or less, including the table, or a board, or something to put the clamps on.

Oval carabiners seem to work well. The second picture is a 4" x 2"18kN Black Diamond. The cross-pin is made from 3⁄16" steel rod from any hardware store. This one was bent around a ½" bolt in a bench-mounted vice.

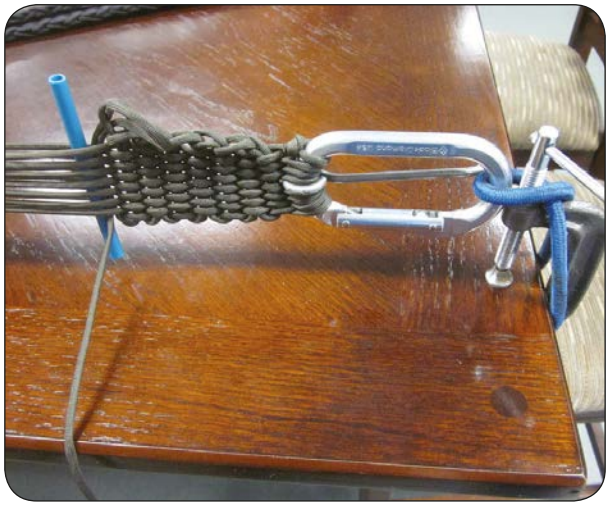
Picture three is my setup. The belt will shrink from the initial length as you make it. This one is 53 ½", which shrinks down to 44". The carabiner is initially tied tight to the clamp at this end, as it seems easier to set up this way. Once you get going, replace the tie with a bungie cord, so the belt can shorten as it wants to. The whole idea is to pack as many crossing runs into your length as possible, and having the bungie-mounted end will help with that.

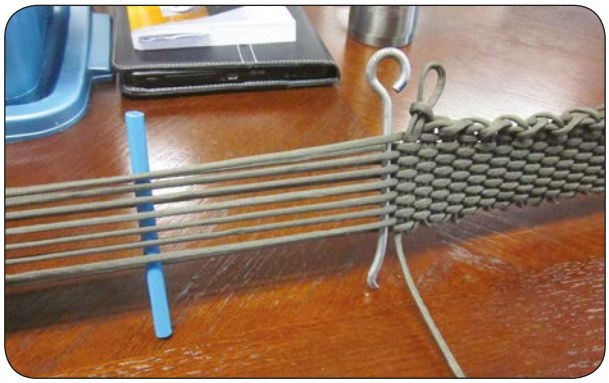
Next you can see the cord run up from the spool on the floor, back and forth seven times, then tied at the top of the carabiner. Be sure to get your cross-pin in the right spot here.

The weave is done by crossing the runs between each other, front one to the back and back ones to the front, using the pen, or rod, or whatever you have,

then running a loop up through them and leaving the top of that loop for the next loop to go through. At about this point, if you switch to the bungie, it will allow the belt to shorten while holding it in place to work on. You'll probably need to check almost every time to be sure your lines don't get crossed at the end you're not working on.

I started out using whatever I had handy, which was this pen body, and then this extra cross-pin. I tried other stuff, but the square end on the pen coupled with its hollow body (which allows a loop of cord to be fed into it and then pulled through, handy for the tight ones as you near the end) and the little hook on the cross-pin actually made for a good set of tools for this.





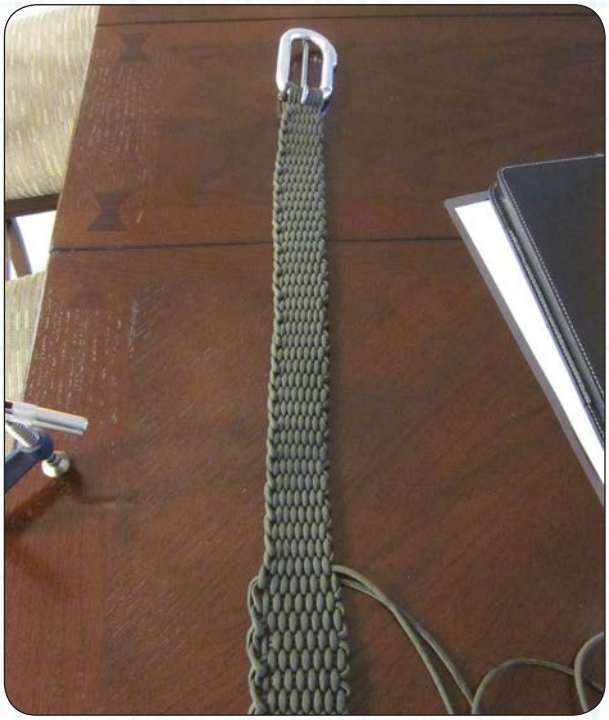
The last one is tricky to get through. I used the hook to work down from the top, then stuck the pen onto it and worked it back through, then put a loop of cord into the pen and pulled it through.

Now you should go back and tighten up the slack in the crossings, and as this D-ring is a little wider than my carabiner, I took the free end and wove it, kind of like a figure eight, through the D-ring until the extra space was filled, finishing off by feeding the end behind the loops of cord on the D-ring.

I fed a single line of inner strand around the ends so I am able to take the carabiner out and not have everything fall apart.

There you go! Style and function, all in one handy 48", multi-thousand-pound tow strap that you can rappel down a cliff with if you need to. Nothing gets better than that.

Note: I also added a mini Nitize S-biner to the side to hold the D-ring in place. Just thread some gutted cord through however it makes sense.



Germ Grenade

By SyberProdigy

(http://www.instructables.com/id/PARACORD-GERM-GRENADE/)

The paracord germ grenade is a hand sanitizer bottle wrapped with paracord. Once tied it can be hung upside down using a carabiner or by using a tie made with paracord, or by other means. I keep one in my vehicle hanging from the rearview mirror so that anytime I leave a store, it is close at hand.

This wrap doesn't have to be strictly for hand sanitizer; some may prefer hand lotion or any other items you use frequently that you want to keep close at hand. It is also a very easy wrap to tie; if you can tie a knot then you can tie the paracord germ grenade.

Step 1: Supplies

- 13 feet of paracord in the color of your choice
- Hand sanitizer bottle (I used Purell)
- Ruler or tape measure
- Hemostats or other small needle-nose pliers
- Lighter
- Rubber band
- Scissors (anything that will cut the paracord)
- Super Glue (not necessary)

Step 2: Preparing the Paracord

Measure the paracord with your ruler and cut to length. If using a bottle close to the same size as the one I used, 13 feet of paracord will be sufficient. Use your lighter to singe the ends of the paracord to keep the strands from coming out; it makes the paracord easier to work with.

Step 3: The Vertical Strands

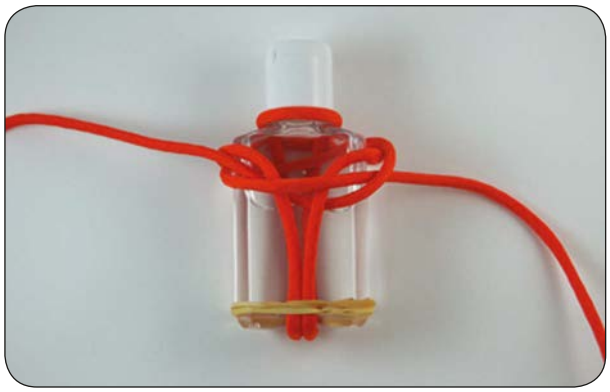
Find the center of the paracord and form a loop there. Take the loop and wrap it around the neck of the hand sanitizer bottle. Then run the two strands down the middle to the bottom and back up the other side. Place the rubber band around the bottom of the bottle to secure the paracord in place.

Step 4: Tying the First Wrap

Split the strands on the backside, which will have one strand on the left and the other on the right. Bring both strands around to the front. Using the hemostats, pull the right strand underneath the two vertical strands. Take the left strand and run it over the two vertical strands, tie a half knot, and pull the two strands tight.

Step 5: Tying the Second Wrap

Flip the hand sanitizer bottle over and then pull the strands around to the back. As you did in the previous step, take the right strand and pull it underneath the two vertical strands. Bring the left strand over the two vertical strands, tie a half knot, and then pull the two strands tight.



Step 6: Continuing Steps

Flip the hand sanitizer bottle over and then pull the strands around to the front. Continue by pulling the right strand underneath the two vertical strands and then bringing the left strand over the two vertical strands, tying a half knot, and then cinching the strands tight.

This is the basic tying technique for the germ grenade—just continue to flip the bottle over, wrapping as explained, until you are about halfway down the bottle.

At this time you want to compress the strands together and tweak the strands with either the hemostats or a dull pointed tool to make the wrap fit snugly in place all the way up and down the bottle.

Step 7: Finishing the Wrap

Continue wrapping the bottle until you reach the bottom. Finesse the wrap again as you did in the previous step, making the tucks even all the way down.

Step 8: Finalizing the Germ Grenade

Once you've wrapped the bottle all the way to the bottom you will need to cut the excess paracord. Mark the paracord with a pen at the points where it needs to be cut. Use your scissors and cut the paracord evenly so that it makes it look as if the wrap continues on. Now take your lighter and singe the ends. If you have Super Glue, you can use it to secure the strands in place (make sure not to use the glue on sections of the paracord that will be seen— it should be used on the underside of the paracord).

Your paracord germ grenade is now complete, and hopefully you have created something similar to the one I tied. Add a carabiner to the bottom of the bottle or leave as it is—the end result is up to you.

Laptop Harness

By ThatEmilyPerson

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-Laptop-Harness/)

When starting this project, I had several criteria I wanted to hit, and after three other prototypes, this one succeeds because it's:

1) 100% paracord
2) symmetrical and aesthetically pleasing
3) successful at holding the darn laptop where it's supposed to be!
4) easy to remove the laptop from and easy to put it back in

(Additional benefit was that it also happened to leave my stickers visible, because they're awesome.)

Step 1: Materials Needed

You won't need much for this project. I used about 44 feet of paracord, though you will probably need more if your laptop is bigger. I used my 10" Acer netbook. If you don't already have this much paracord lying around, it's cheap enough to buy. If you're the sort of person who likes paracord and has plenty, then it's free!

Scissors are for cutting paracord.

Lighter is for burning the ends (do be careful).

Gaffer's tape is optional, but I find it useful and it leaves no residue on either the paracord or the laptop. If you don't have gaffer's tape, any sort of tape will do.

Step 2: Prep

Cut four lengths of paracord to the same length. These strands will form the body of the harness. Mine were 8 feet long, but you might want to add an extra foot or three if your laptop is bigger than a 10" netbook.

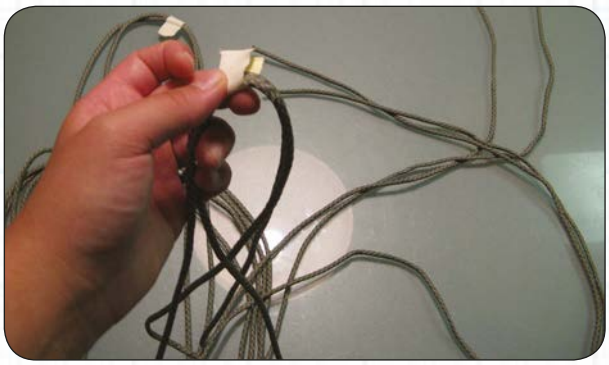
Not pictured is another pair of strands about 6 feet long each for the handles. Set those aside as you won't need them for a while.

I recommend burning the ends to prevent fraying while you're working.

Step 3: Pair 'em Off and Round 'em Up!

Pair off your body strands and find the center. Tape it off and keep the two pairs separate from each other.

While you're here, break off a few pieces of tape and have them handy nearby on the edge of a table or something.



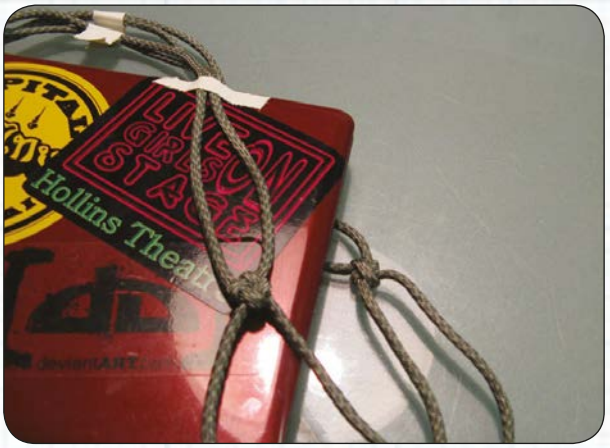
Step 4: Set Up Your Handles

Center the taped pieces at the top of your laptop, one on each side, and tape them down about as long as you want your handles to be. Err on the side of slightly shorter and make sure you do the same to the other side.

Step 5: Cross Knotting

Do a cross knot where your paracord strands reach the edge of the laptop. Instructions for a cross knot can be found online, though I walk through them in picture form here. Apologies for slight blurriness.

While you're at it, get used to the cross knot. You'll be doing plenty of them. For now, however, just do this with all four pairs of your working strands. Make sure you keep them facing front if aesthetics are important to you.



Step 6: Setting Up the Sides

On each side, braid the strands loosely together to create a slight side to the harness. No need to pull it too tight and, actually, I recommend that you don't do so.

If you don't feel like doing it, you can just loop the strands around each other.

Once you're done with that, put a cross knot on each pair of strands. Do this to both sides of the harness. Symmetry is your friend, as is even spacing.

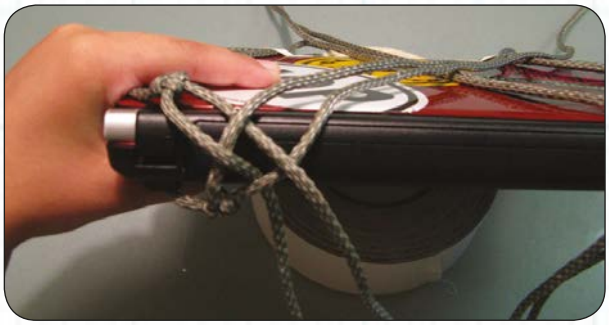
Step 7: More Cross Knots!

On each pair of strands, do yet another cross knot about half an inch from the bottom of your laptop when the strands are pulled at about a 45 degree angle away from the sides. If that doesn't make sense, just look at the pictures.

Step 8: Over and Under

Cross each pair under the laptop to the other side, weaving the strands between each other. Do this for all four pairs so that it's symmetrical.

The second picture just gives the general shape of what it's going to end up looking like.



Step 9: The Last Set of Cross Knots, I Swear

Take each pair of strands and do another set of cross knots. These are the last set, I promise you. Once those are done and evenly spaced, cross the strands in the same over-under pattern. Do this for both sides of the laptop.

Step 10: Cobra Stitch

Take each pair of strands and loop them over the strands that you taped down to the laptop (if you opted to use tape). Once you loop them over, start a cobra stitch down where you just came from and go until you like the length. Do this to both sides.

Before your cobra stitch gets too far, make sure you pull the strands taut until you're tugging at the handle-tape a bit. This will keep the laptop much snugger in the harness and keep it safe.

Step 11: Trim and Burn!

I recommend very much that you take the harness off of the laptop to trim and burn the ends from the cobra stitch. Afterwards you can put it back on and appreciate it for a moment or two.

And I shouldn't need to remind you that fire is dangerous, as is molten paracord. Don't get either on you.

Step 12: Handles!

Take those strands (mine were 6 feet long and gave me about 7 inches of handle each) you set aside way back at the beginning back out! It's time to put some handles on this sucker. Take the tape off the center of the strands from before and start your cobra stitch wherever you'd like your handle to begin.

When your handles are as long as you'd like them to be, trim and burn the ends.

Step 13: Finished!

Sandals

By DIYfootwear

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Basic-DIY-Huarache-Running-Hiking-Sandals/)

Huarache running sandals have existed for thousands of years. They were refined and made popular by the famous long distance running tribe of Mexico's Copper Canyon—the Tarahumara Indians. The book *Born to Run* re-introduced the world to these superhuman running athletes and the primitive sandals they run in. Below are instructions for using modern day rubber shoe soles and lacing to create a high tech version of the huarache running sandal. All materials and instructions from DIYFootwear.com.

Step 1: Tools and Materials

Tools needed:

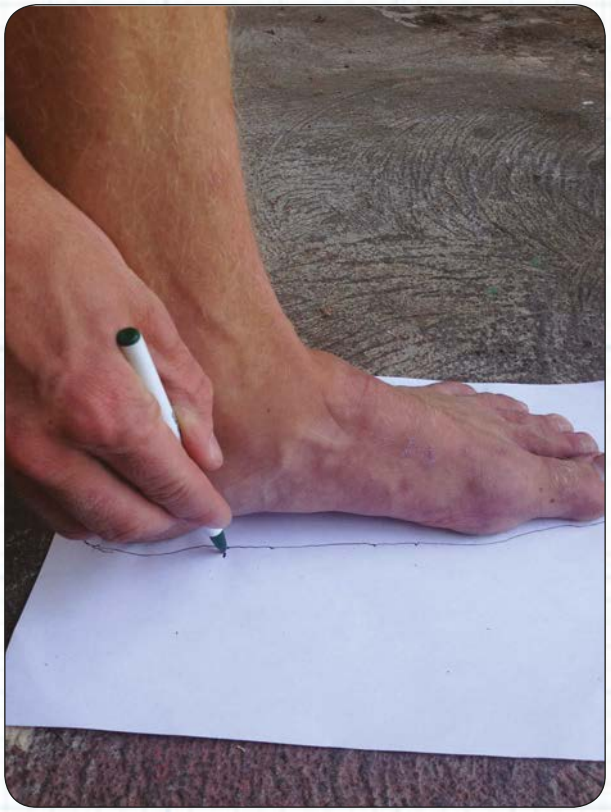
- Hammer
- Scissors
- Box cutter
- Paper and pen
- 120-grit sandpaper
- 4mm diameter hole punch
- Lighter or match
- Chalk

Materials needed:

- Rubber sole material (Vibram Newflex used)
- 12ft nylon paracord (6ft for each sandal)

Step 2: Tracing Feet on Paper

1. Hold pen or pencil perpendicular to paper and trace along the edge of your foot. Tip: Try not to bump into your ankles.
2. Mark just in front of where your ankle bone is for side hole placement on your sandal.
3. Mark the beginning of the gap between your big toe and second toe (holding pencil perpendicular to paper). This mark will be where you make the thong-strap hole.



Step 3: Determining Sandal Shape

Once finished tracing your feet, go back and add buffer zones—add material to the sandal edges. Create and draw in the final sandal shape that you will ultimately use with a dotted line. Here are some tips for creating a good sandal shape from your foot tracing:

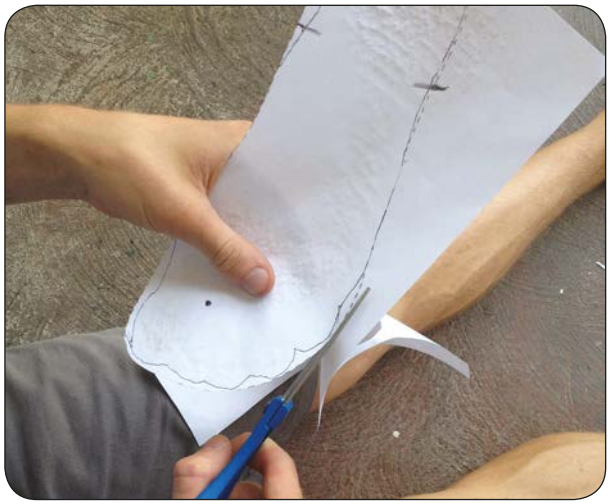
- Have buffer area in front of your toes.
- Cut out and exclude some of the arch area where you do not need extra material.
- Exclude foot features that do not actually touch the ground (e.g., bunions).
- Keep sandal heel wide enough for side holes and straps

Step 4: Cutting Out Tracing and Transferring to Sole Material

Cutting Out Paper Sandal Outline: Cut closely along the dotted line you created in the last step. Be sure to keep the tracing facing up so you don't accidentally make two right feet!

Transferring to Rubber:

1. Use the cut out paper sandal outline and transfer its shape to the side of rubber sole that will be contacting your foot.
2. Hold paper outline firmly on rubber sole material.
3. Work your way around the perimeter of paper sandal while marking the rubber sole material with chalk.
4. Mark both ankle hole locations and use a pen to punch through paper to mark the thong-strap hole.



Step 5: Cutting Out Soling and Punching Holes

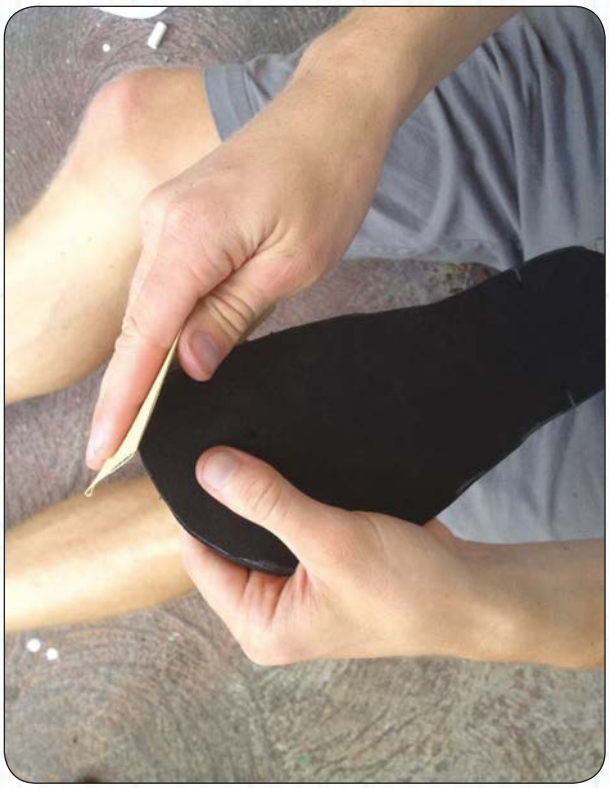
Cut out your sandals. STAY SAFE! Never cut towards fingers. There are many ways to cut soling. Keep in mind that denser rubber soles will be more difficult to cut. Be sure to take your time! Use a box cutter or pair of scissors to cut out your sandals. Slowly cut along the center of your chalk line.

To punch lacing holes:

1. Use hammer and 4mm hole punch to punch out holes.
2. Punch out thong-strap hole directly on marked dot.
3. Punch out side holes in about 1 cm from the edge of the sandal. This centimeter buffer is important for making sure the lacing doesn't tear through your rubber sole material. For larger feet err on the side of caution by adding more than 1 cm buffer.

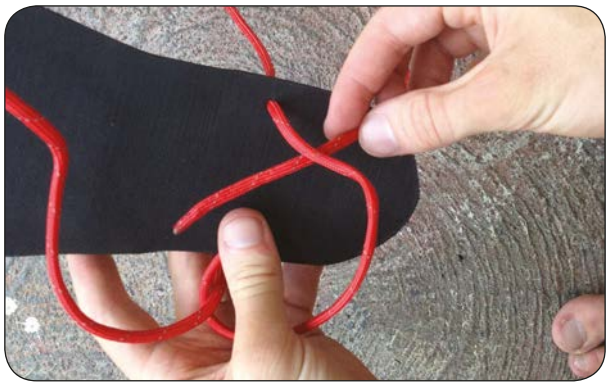
Step 6: Smoothing the Rough Edges

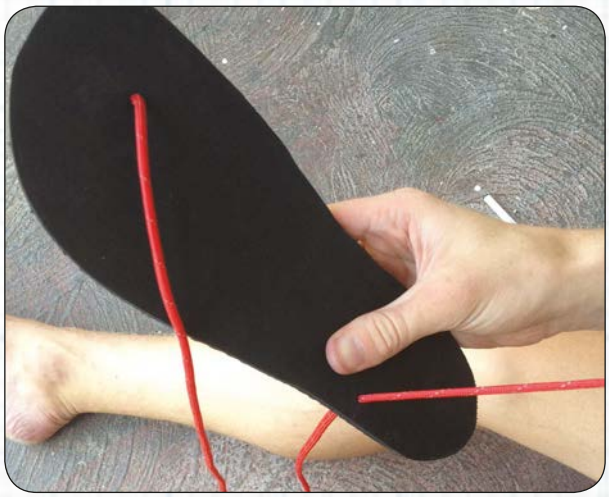
1. Flip sandal over with tread facing up.
2. Use box cutter to trim out bumps and smooth out edges.
3. Buff out any lingering bumps and blemishes along sandal edge with sandpaper.



Step 7: Lacing

Tie one simple overhand knot at end of cord. Pull it tight. Follow steps in photos for lacing.





Helmet

By mr2percent

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Helmet-Paracord-Web/)

Recently I came into possession of an old military-style helmet, and I've been thinking about getting it all camo'd up. I started thinking about what else I would like to do with it. Something I was considering was having a way to be able to keep things strapped and/or held to the helmet. Primarily I was wondering about being able to slip branches/leaves into the "web" so that I can more adequately blend the helmet into the surrounding environment. Having some paracord laying around got me thinking, and this is the result.

Note: It probably goes without saying, but whatever you do for one side, you're going to do for the other.

Step 1: Supplies

- A helmet (really any will do, as long as it's got holes in the top.)
- Paracord (about 25–30 feet of it)
- Scissors
- Lighter

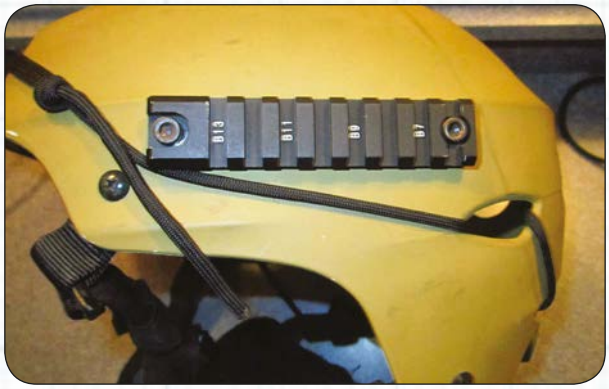
Optional:

- Pencil to sketch out what you'd like the web to look like, where you want it to go, etc.
- Allen wrench/screwdriver. I used these to remove the straps and side rails, but I realized you didn't need to after I finished.

Step 2: First Paracord Wrap

The first thing I decided upon was that I wanted to have a lower wrap of paracord as well as the top portion wrap. Basically I weaved the paracord around the helmet counterclockwise through the holes, and then cut the cord once I had the length I wanted.

To secure the cord, I tied two double fisherman's knots on either side of the NVG mount. It looks nice, and it's pretty taut around the helmet. Exactly as needed.



Step 3: Here Comes the Fun

This part required a good bit of work, and a lot of undoing. That's why I would suggest using a pencil to mark out where you want the cord to appear.

Again, I took most of the pictures as I reversed the process, but wherever I got stuck I tried to take new pictures, so things should be reasonably clear.

First up, I started from the back once again, folding the cord in half to make sure both sides were even. Then I threaded the cord through the two rearmost bottom holes and up through the accompanying holes above them, wrapping the cord around the first wrap. Then I threaded the cord through the rearmost holes on top of the helmet so that they crisscrossed inside the helmet. (Pictures 1 and 2)

Picture 3 is a view from the front of the helmet.

Then thread the cord into the middle holes, cross over to the actual middle hole, then come out of the front two top holes. Confused yet? (Pictures 4 and 5)

From there, thread the cord out the top front holes (above the NVG mount), cross over into the holes once more, and back up and out of the top front holes. (Pictures 6 and 7)

Step 4: More Fun

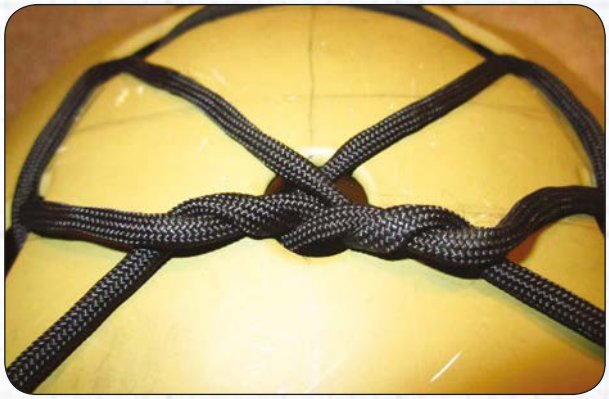
Picture 1: Out from the bottom holes, in through the middle holes, then back out the top holes (viewed from the front).

Picture 2: Crisscross the cord, thread it back into the top holes, and out the bottom holes.

Pictures 3, 4, and 5: Cross the cord over the middle hole, then wrap each over the opposite cord that is going into the middle hole (confusing, but check the pictures)

Picture 6: In through the top holes (from the front) then out the bottom holes.

Picture 7: Weave through the next two holes then wrap it around the back of the helmet.



Step 5: Even More Fun

Okay, you're almost there. Coming from the front, you want to weave the cord in the rear topmost hole, out the bottom hole, back up into the top hole. This time, we're coming back out the same hole, by weaving it under the original wrap and up toward the front/middle of the helmet.

For some reason I decided not to take pictures at the next part, so I'll use an overall picture to show you where to go from here (Picture 4). Basically, in the top hole, out the bottom one, back up to the middle, do a little wrap around there, and angle it out to the opposite side.

Step 6: Almost There

From here we've got a tiny bit more to go to finish this up. Hopefully by now you're running out of cord, which is a good thing. Now we just need to use up the rest of that cord.

This part is easiest to describe using the pictures, so refer to them. Basically you want to connect the cord coming from the top of the helmet and bind it to the first wrap, as well as to the part of the cord that wraps above the rails.

Step 7: Finishing (Finally!)

Alright, time to finish it up! Now the cord should be riding toward the front of the helmet above the rails. You have to tie it up, and I used the double fisherman's knot again, just to keep things regular.

Once it's cinched up, you can trim the cord as short as you need or want it to be.

And that's pretty much it! Again, it's kind of confusing, but if you work it through, and do what works for you, it'll turn out great.

Toys

Sling

Army Man

Army Man Rifle

Army Man Radio Backpack

Army Man Parachute

Horse

Octopus

Paracord Guys

Sling

By mark_well

(http://www.instructables.com/id/The-paracord-sling/)

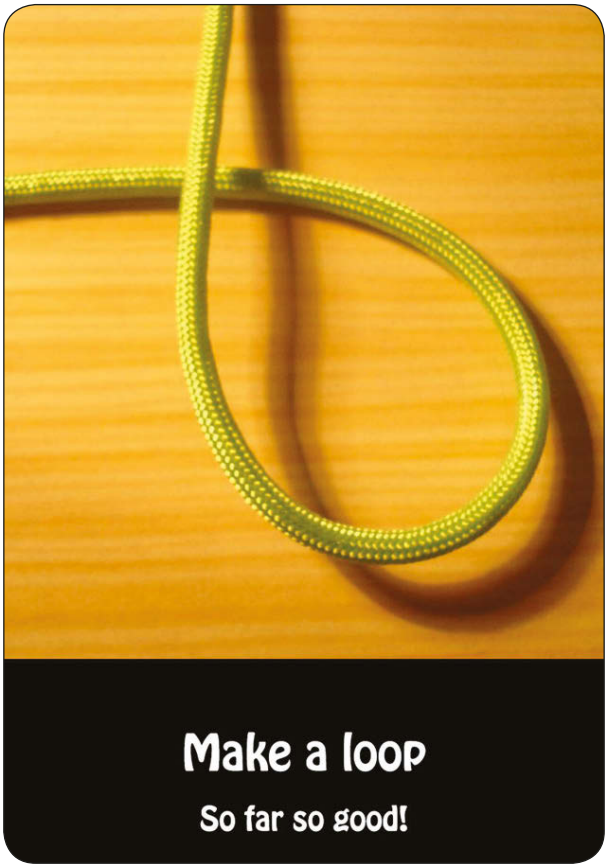
A sling is one of the most fun items you can make out of paracord. It is a weapon, so treat it as such and apply the diligence it deserves. No shooting toward people or animals! The added benefit is that the sling is a ranged weapon, meaning it can be used from a distance. That fact makes it handy in situations when you would like to defeat something stronger than you (remember the biblical story of David and Goliath) or hunt something. There is even a handy video of an older fellow who hunts rabbits using this very weapon. It is also very fun to play with friends (be very careful though, at the start it is very hard to control the direction of our shots!).

For this project all you will need is a piece of paracord (I recommend type 550). You will also need a lighter to burn the edges, which will make them more consistent. The paracord sling is made with the relatively easy process of weaving. In essence there will be a lot of go over-under steps. That means that the basic technique is to go under a cord, then over the next one, then under again—simple, effective, and gets the job done.

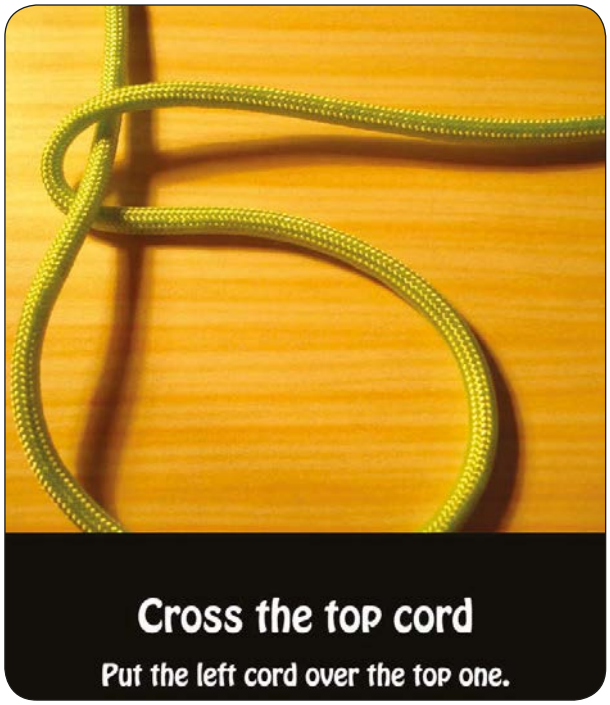
This project takes a very short time to make, but shooting with the sling is not something you learn overnight. Historically, the sling was used because it is cheap, ammunition (rocks) is readily available, and the range of the weapon is higher than that of the bow. The sling can be shot in a straight line or in an arc. Later, when metals began their prominence, lead ammunition (also called acorns) emerged. The force was said to be so high upon impact that armor could be penetrated, making the sling a weapon of fear, as well as effectiveness. But all in all, the sling is a weapon of the poor who could not afford armor and had to fight as light infantry. I hope you enjoyed this short intro, now let's make a sling!

Step 1: Preparing the paracord

Step 2: Making the first loop

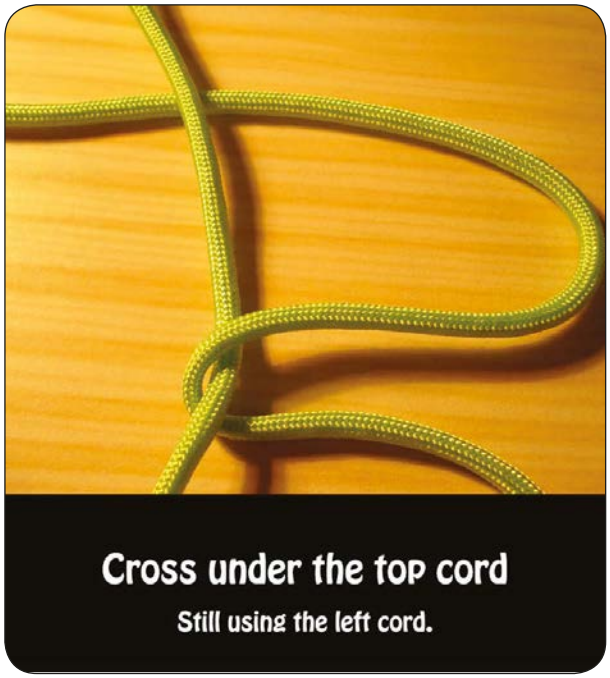


Step 3: Send up the weave

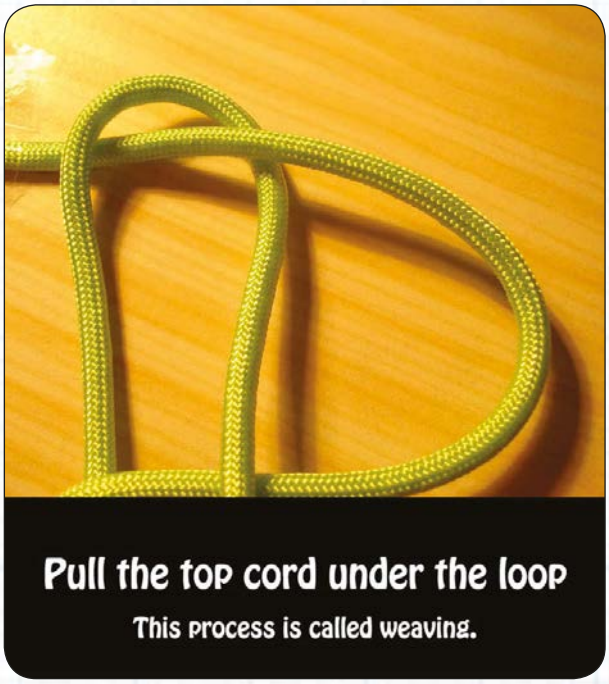


Step 5: Almost ready to start weaving

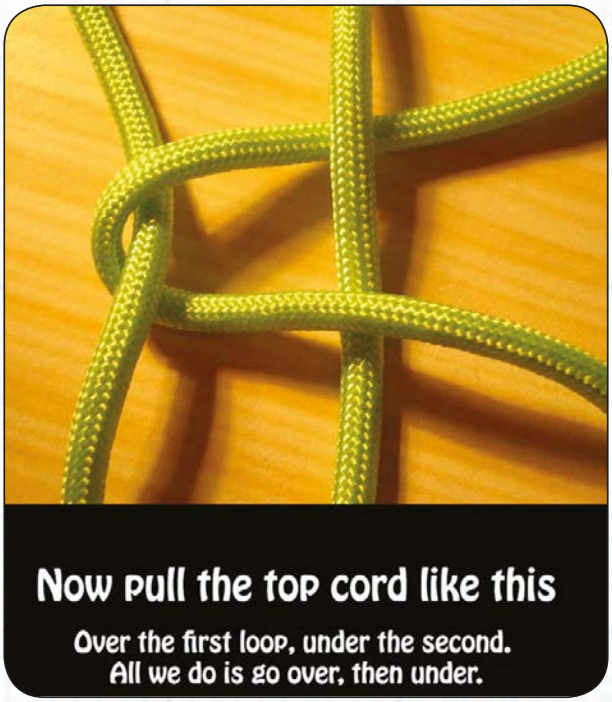
Step 4:



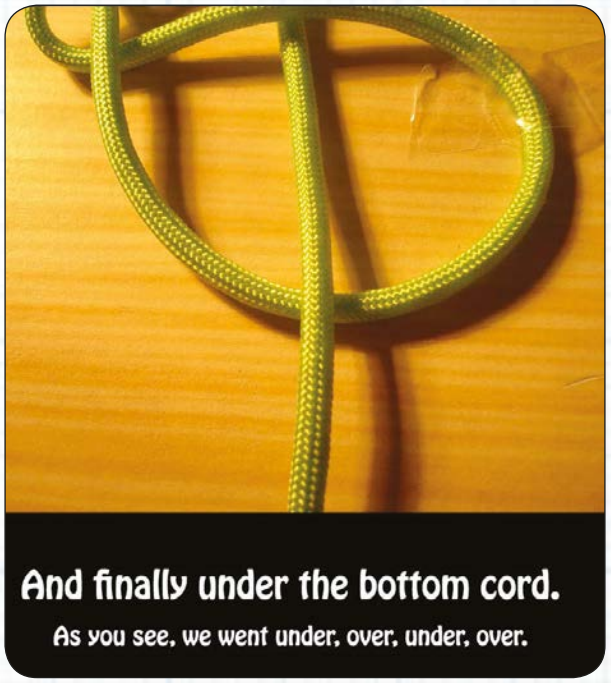
Step 6: Starting the weave



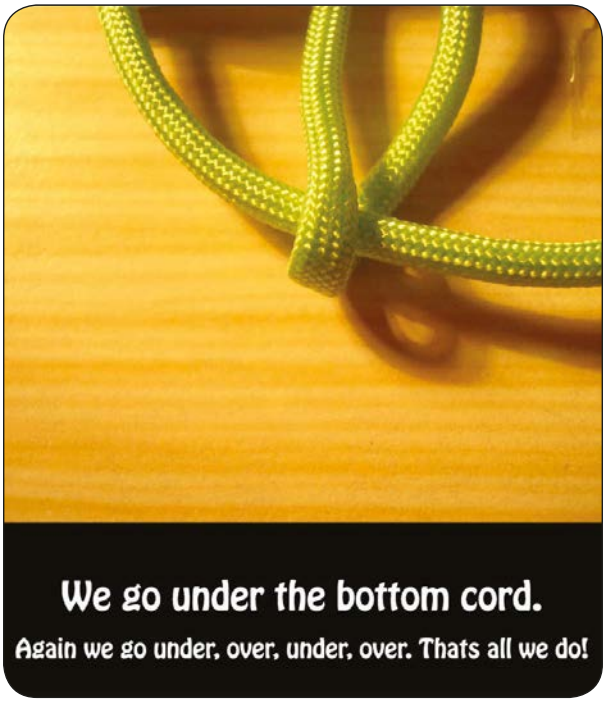
Step 7: Weaving



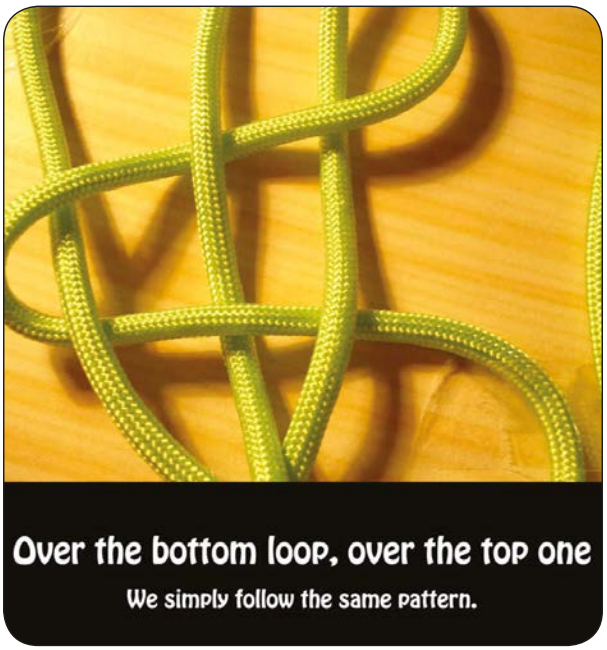
Step 8: Getting through one weave



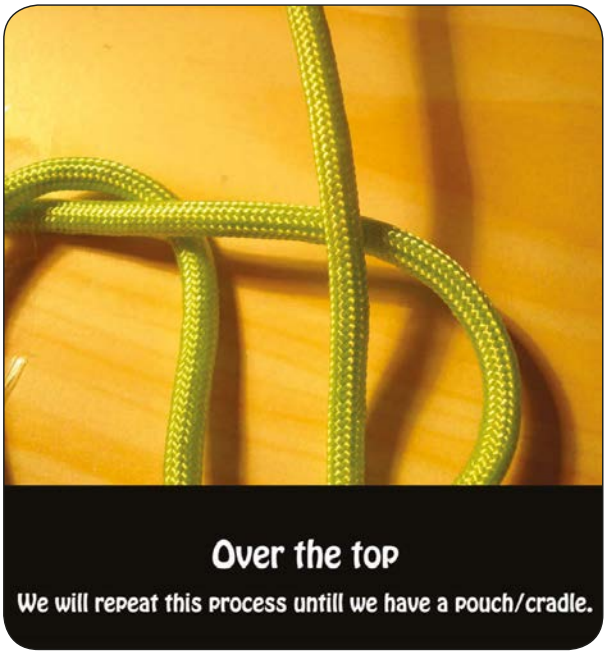
Step 9: Turning back around



Step 10: Over and under, just as promised!



Step 11: Reaching the top



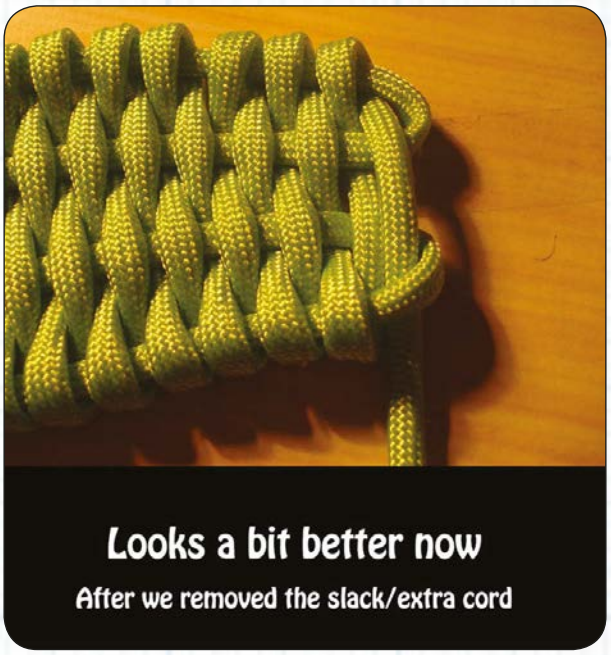
Step 12: Group the cords neatly together

Step 13: Almost done

Step 14: Tightening the pouch

Step 15: More tightening

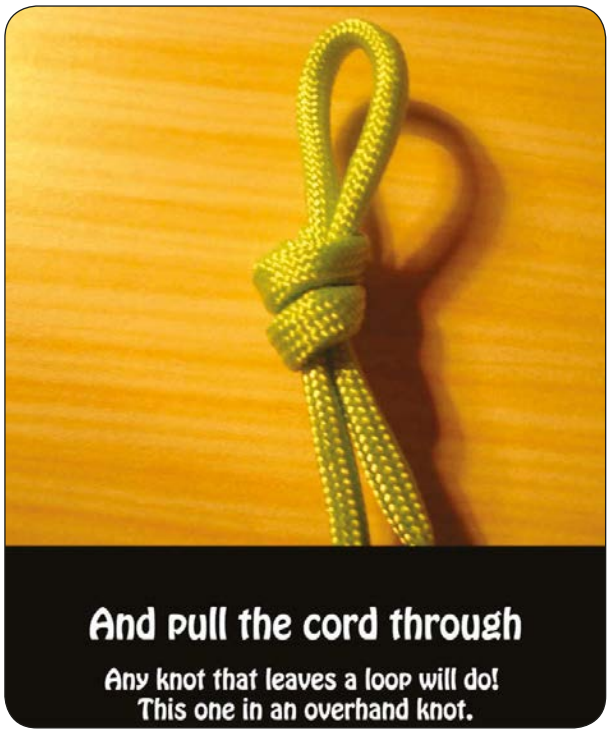
Step 16: After we removed the slack



Step 17: Making the finger loop

Step 18: Looping the finger loop

Step 19: Double overhand knot—complete!



Step 20: Making the cup

Step 21: We are done!

Careful using this item. It is a weapon that can cause serious injury to other people, animals, or property. Enjoy your sling and have (safe) fun with it!

Army Man

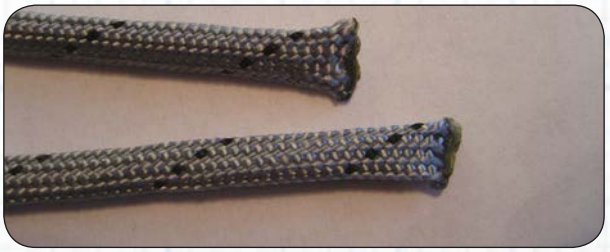
By Helijin

(http://www.instructables.com/id/How-to-Make-a-Posable-Army-ManWoman-1/)

I have had so much fun playing with these as they are, that I haven't bothered to add a base stand. These directions have the option to add hair and then cut it how you like. I made one with really long hair for my daughter so she could braid it. My wife cut hers short and colored it. These guys can do pushups, head stands, yoga poses—you name it. Let your imagination go. I have yet to break the wire in my first prototype, and it has had a real workout. You will need about 67" of paracord and 22-gauge wire, scissors, wire cutters, a ruler, and a lighter.

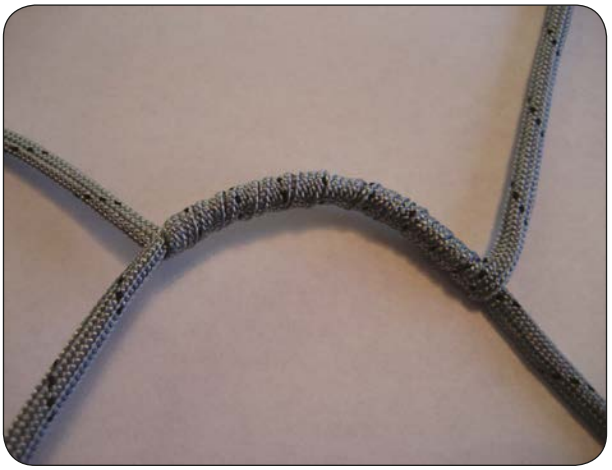
Step 1: Preparing the Paracord

Cut two pieces of paracord, one 22" and the other 45". Remove the center strands and save for optional hair. Cut two pieces of 22-gauge wire the same lengths as the paracord. Use a lighter to melt one end of each paracord outer sheathing and insert the corresponding length of wire in the center. Stretch the paracord along the wire and melt the other end of the paracord, sealing the wire inside. Fold each length in half to find the center.



Step 2: The Head

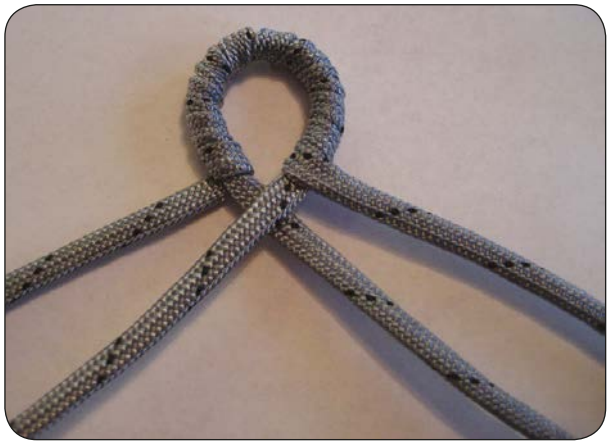
Wrap the 45" piece around the 22" piece, overlapping at the centers, to form the head. Wrap the right side five times and the left side five times. There should be a total of ten wraps between the two long pieces (pieces pointing up in the first picture.)



You can optionally add in hair. Take the 22" center strands and cut them in half. A good amount is six groups of five strands each. This will leave two wraps without hair on each side of the head. Fold a group of five in half and put those in the first wrap. Do two more on the right side and then three more on the left side. Use a little Super Glue at the roots to hold the hair in place.

Step 3: The Chest

Fold the head around and shape. Overlap pieces as shown. Then weave the four pieces together. Be sure to keep the head tight, so the head wraps meet in the center. When finished, the shorter pieces should be on top with the longer pieces on the bottom.



Step 4: Form the Arms

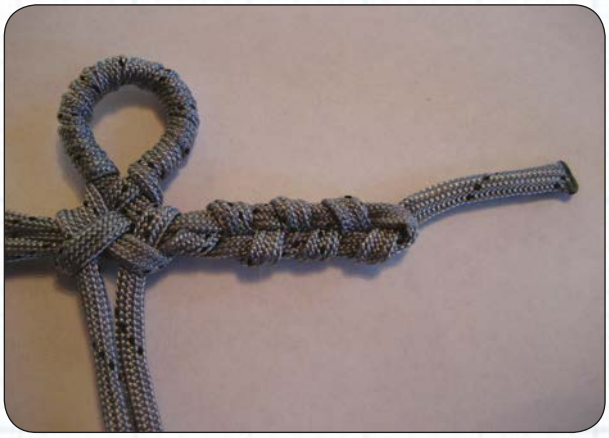
Fold the top short pieces back on themselves as shown. Wrap the long pieces around the arms as shown.

Step 5: Lock in the Arms

Tighten the long pieces around the arms. Notice how the extensions that are wrapped in the arm fall behind and in the center of the arm loops when viewed from the front.

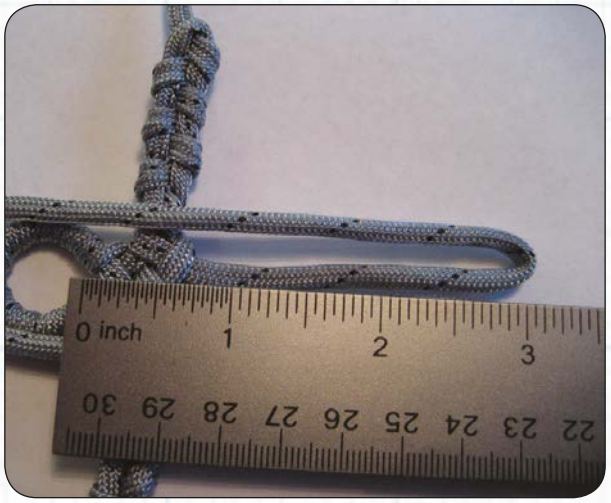
Step 6: Finish the Arms

Adjust the arm loops to a length of 1 ⅞" from the center of the head. Starting from the bottom, weave the extensions into the arms on both sides as shown. There should be three wraps on the top of each arm.



Step 7: Form the Legs

Form the legs and set to a length of 3 ⅛" from the inside bottom of the head. Wrap the pieces in the back with a criss-cross pattern.



Step 8: The Torso

Wrap the cord around the legs, interweaving them until there are four wraps as shown. Grab the legs and tighten the waist weave by sliding it toward the head.

Step 9: Lock in the Torso

Lock the waist in place by wrapping the cord around the outside half of the leg and tighten.

Step 10: Start the Legs

Start the leg weave.

Step 11: Finish the Legs

Weave the legs, making four wraps on the outside of the leg, not counting the starting wrap (wrap used to lock the waist in step 9), as shown. Notice how the wrap pieces for the legs finish pointing out the back and to the outside and the wraps for the arms finish pointing out the back and upward.

Step 12: Finish Arms and Legs

Finish the arms and legs by cutting the end pieces about ¼" from the body. Trim back the wire inside and then melt the cord and flatten using a lighter.

Step 13: Completed Army Man

Army Man Rifle

By Helijin
(http://www.instructables.com/id/Army-Man-Rifle/)

Every army man needs a rifle for self-defense. This rifle is one that can be fitted to the army man either in action or across the back for carrying, and it is removable.

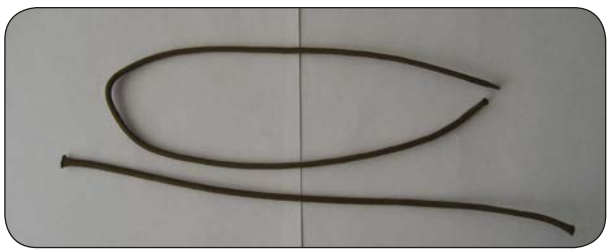
Step 1: Materials

You will need:

- About 29" of paracord
- 29" of 22-gauge wire
- Scissors
- Wire cutters
- Lighter
- Ruler

Step 2: Prepare the Paracord

Cut two pieces of paracord, one 11" and one 18". Remove the center strands. Cut two pieces of 22-gauge wire the same lengths as the paracord. Use a lighter to melt one end of each paracord outer sheathing and insert the corresponding length of wire in the center. Stretch the paracord along the wire and melt the other end of the paracord, sealing the wire inside.



Step 3: Make a Stopper Knot

Tie a stopper knot as shown in the picture and then tighten, leaving about 1" to 2" for the gun barrel.

Step 4: Start the Gun Stock

Start the gun stock by making a simple overhand knot about 4" from the end of the 18" piece of paracord. Place this over the long piece of the barrel, tighten, and snug up against the stopper knot.

Step 5: Make the Gun Stock

Continue tying overhand knots in an alternating fashion eight more times. Then finish with one more overhand knot, pulling the lead towards the top of the barrel.

Step 6: Finish the Gun Stock

Cut the lead to about ⅛" inch from the stock and trim the wire inside. Melt the end with a lighter and smash down to finish off the gun stock.

Step 7: Make a Handle

Count four loops from the end that was sealed in step 6. Bend the stock to expose the inside cords. Pull on the one that is not the barrel of the gun. Once a sufficient amount to make a loop has been pulled through, close up the gun stock and form a vertical loop. The lead being pulled should also be the shortest one coming out the end of the gun stock.

Step 8: Finish the Handle

Adjust the loop around the arm of an army man so it is big enough to be easily removed. Cut the short lead pulled in by the loop to ⅛" from the end of the gun. Trim the wire inside and melt with a lighter.

Step 9: Make a Carrying Strap

Enlarge the last loop on the front of the gun stock using a pencil. Fold the long lead left coming out of the back of the gun stock toward the front and insert into the loop. This will form the carrying strap for the gun. Adjust the size by slinging it over the arm and head of an army man.

Step 10: Finish the Carrying Strap

Once the carrying strap is adjusted, cut the excess to ⅛" inch from the gun stock, trim the wire inside, melt with a lighter, and flatten.

Step 11: Finish the Barrel

Cut the barrel to about 1" long. Trim the wire inside. Melt the end of the barrel, but don't smash it. This will give a real gun barrel look with a hole.

Step 12: Done

The finished army man rifle.

Army Man Radio Back-Pack

By Helijin

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-Army-Man-Radio-Back-Pack/)

These are instructions on how to make a radio backpack for the Paracord Army Man. This backpack is fashioned so that it can be removed if desired. The construction techniques are the same as for the army man.

Step 1: Materials

You will need:

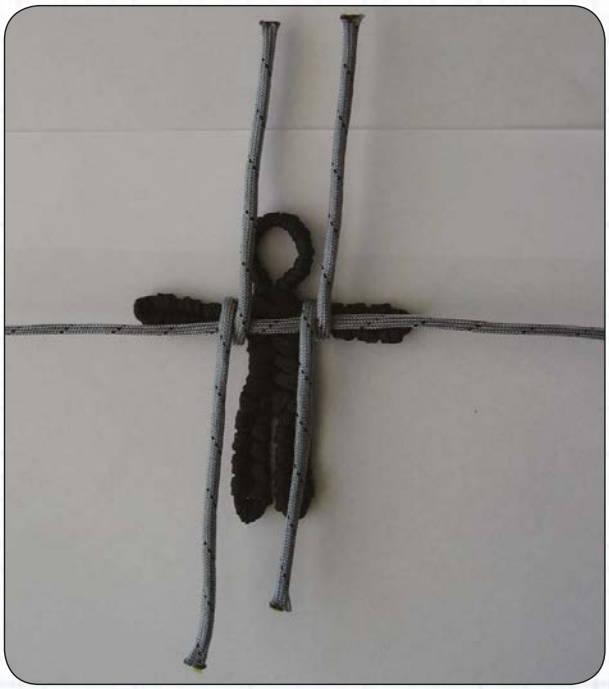
- About 28" of paracord
- 28" of 22-gauge wire
- Scissors
- Wire cutters
- Ruler
- Lighter

Step 2: Prepare the Materials

Cut three pieces of paracord, two 9" and one 10". Remove the center strands. Cut three pieces of 22-gauge wire the same lengths as the paracord pieces. Use a lighter to melt one end of each paracord outer sheathing and insert the corresponding length of wire in the center. Stretch the paracord along the wire and melt the other end of the paracord, sealing the wire inside. Fold the 9" lengths in half to find the center. Fold the 10" length as show in the photo. This one will make the antenna.

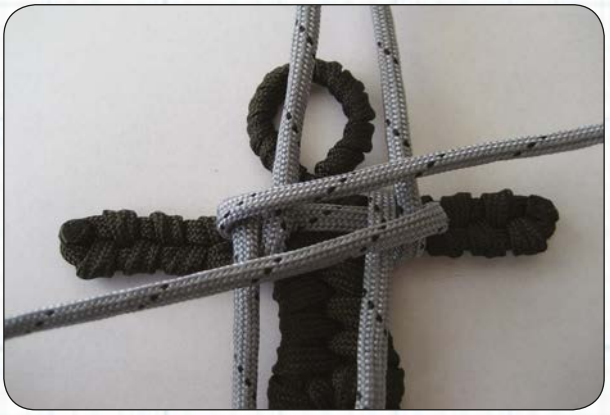
Step 3: Put Paracord on Army Man

Wrap one 9" piece and the 10" piece at their centers, as found in the previous step, around the army man arms. The 10" piece is on the left in the photo. Thread the other 9" length through the wraps and center from left to right. Notice that the longer lead (the antenna) points down on the left in the picture.



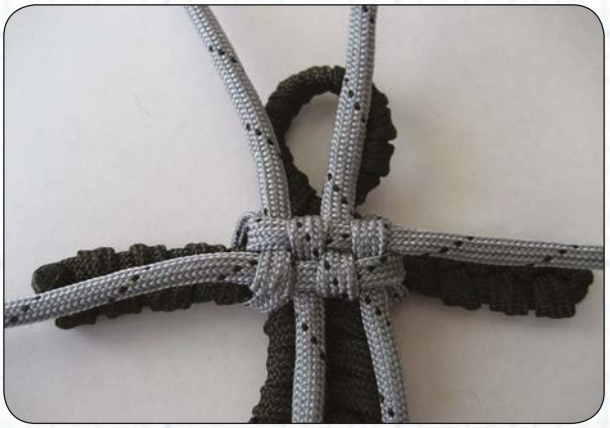
Step 4: Start the Weave

Start the backpack weave by folding back the horizontal center leads. Be sure that all horizontal and vertical leads are arranged as shown in the photo.



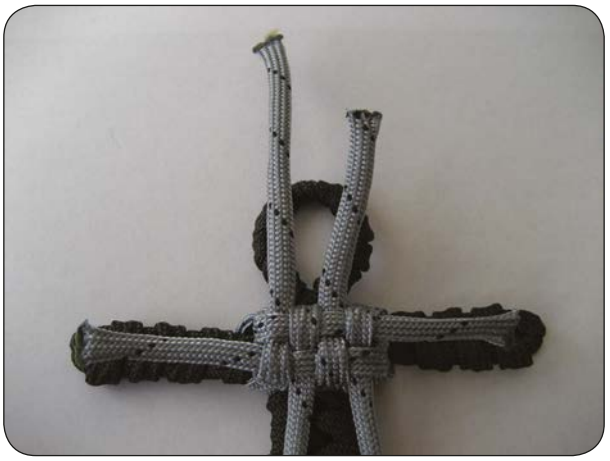
Step 5: Complete First Layer

Weave the vertical leads into the horizontal leads. Tighten all leads and form the back pack into an even rectangular shape. Now is a good time to turn over the model and check that the arm straps aren't too tight. If they are too tight, loosen them a little by pulling some lead back into the straps. The backpack can be removed by bending the army man arms back and pulling them out of the straps. Don't remove the backpack at this step.



Step 6: Add Two More Layers

Repeat the weave in step 4 two more times. Keep the backpack rectangular as each layer is tightened. There should be a total of three layers. This will bring the antenna to the top/left, as shown in the picture. Remove the backpack for finishing.



Step 7: Finish the Backpack

Trim all of the leads, except the antenna lead, to about ⅛" from the backpack. Cut back the wire inside. Then use a lighter to melt and flatten the leads to the backpack. Cut the antenna lead so its top is just above the head of the army man. Then trim the wire inside back by about ⅛" of an inch. Melt and seal the top of the antenna with the lighter. Optionally trim the radio lead to ⅛" of the pack for just a regular backpack.

Step 8: Finished Backpack

Army Man Parachute

By Helijin

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Army-Man-Parachute/)

This Instructable will show you how to make a parachute for the Paracord Army Man.

Step 1: Materials

You will need the following:

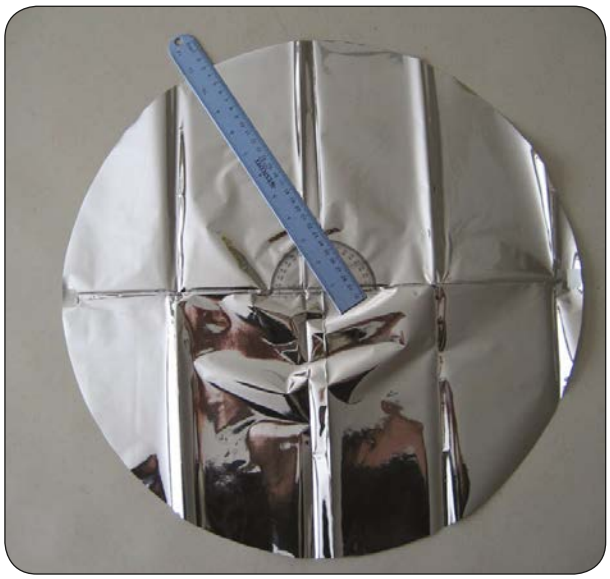
- A mylar sheet (purchased at craft store or party store) that is about 19"-20" square
- Leftover center cord from the 22" lengths of paracord used in the army man
- Paper clip
- Masking tape
- Scissors
- Lighter
- Protractor
- Ruler

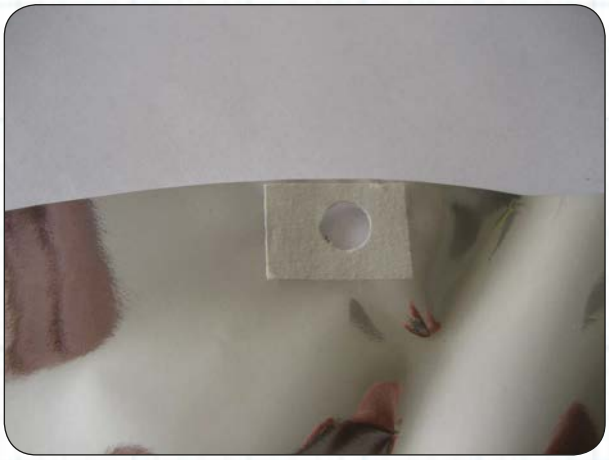
Step 2: Cut the Parachute Circle

Spread out a 20" x 20" mylar sheet. Fold it in half then fold it in half again so it is ¼ of its original size. Make a quarter circle template and overlay it on the folded mylar so that the center of the template is on the corner that is the center of the mylar. Trim off the mylar corners using the template. Unfold to produce a mylar circle. Trim the first sheet at the edge of the printed lines and overlay it on the second sheet, taping it together. Cut out the quarter circle template. Or you can make your own by taping sheets of paper together. Tape a piece of string at the center point, measure the string for your radius, and draw a quarter circle using a pencil attached to the string at the measured radius.

Step 3: Make Anchor Points

Prepare 12 pieces of masking tape cut to ½" in length. Place two of these at the edge of the circle over one of the folds that runs the diameter of the circle. Place the protractor at the center of the mylar circle so it is lined up with the same diameter line. Place a ruler at the 60 degree mark on the protractor and place a piece of tape at the edge of the mylar circle. Place the ruler at the 120 degree mark and place another piece of tape. Repeat for the bottom half of the circle. When complete, there should be six pieces of tape spaced at 60 degrees around the mylar circle. Turn the circle over and place the last six pieces of tape in the same locations as the ones on the first side. Use a hole punch to make holes in the center of the pieces of tape.





Step 4: Attach Parachute Lines

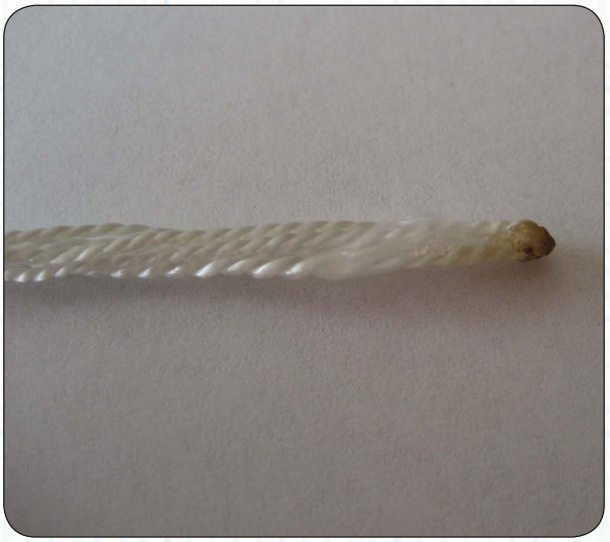
Attach a 22" line of cord to each of the six holes. Do not tighten the lines against the parachute, but rather make loops that move freely. The nylon cord is really slippery and somewhat hard to tie and keep tied. There are two ways to approach it. One requires cyanoacrylate (CA) glue, whereas the other does not.

Easy way:

Tie an overhand knot and apply a little CA glue.

Harder way:

Use a fisherman's no-slip knot, like what is used on lures. Fold the parachute so that all of the lines come together. Cut the lines so they are the same length as the shortest one. Use the lighter to melt and fuse the lines to make them easier to tie. If you are picky, put the lines in order so they aren't crossed before you fuse them.



Step 5: Make a Hook

Bend a paper clip to make an army man hook. Attach the parachute to the hook using a figure eight knot or an overhand knot and some CA glue.

Step 6: Prepare for Launch

Attach the hook to the cross on the back of the army man uniform. Bunch the parachute together and then fold in half. Wrap the cord around the parachute and toss into the sky. Either over-hand or under-hand works well for tossing. The parachute deploys pretty quickly, so experiment with parachute tightness and wraps for maximum height.

Horse

By Helijin
(http://www.instructables.com/id/Posable-Horse/)

The Posable Horse is the perfect companion for the Posable Army Man. You should become proficient at making the Army Man before making the horse. Many of the same principles are used here; however, this project adds the complexity of hair.

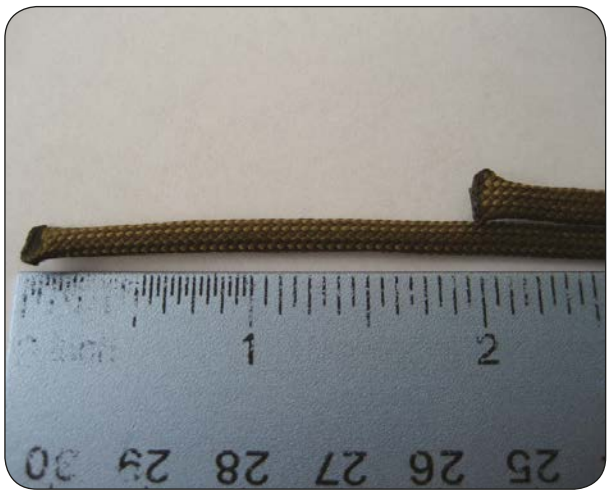
Step 1: Materials

You will need:

- 8 feet of paracord
- 8 feet of 22-gauge wire
- Lighter
- Scissors
- Wire cutters
- Ruler

Step 1: Prepare the Paracord

Cut two pieces of paracord, one 36" and the other 60". Remove the center strands and save for horse hair. Cut two pieces of 22-gauge wire the same lengths as the paracord. Use a lighter to melt one end of each paracord's outer sheathing and insert the corresponding length of wire in the center. Stretch the paracord along the wire and melt the other end of the paracord, sealing the wire inside. Fold each length in half to find the center. Offset the center for the 60" cord by 2" as shown.

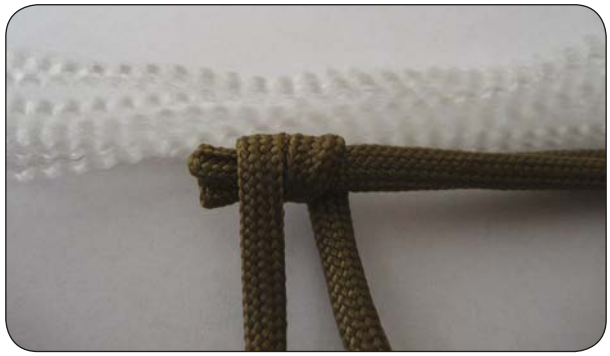


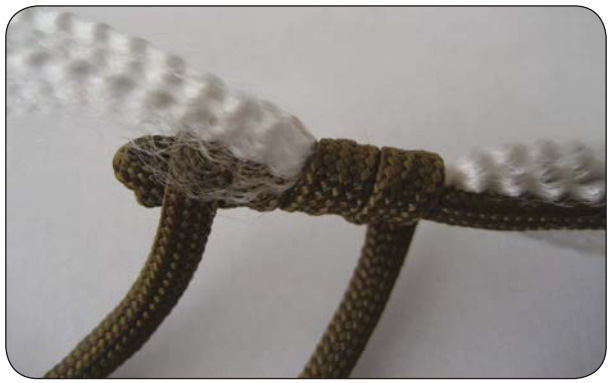
Step 2: Prepare the Horse Hair

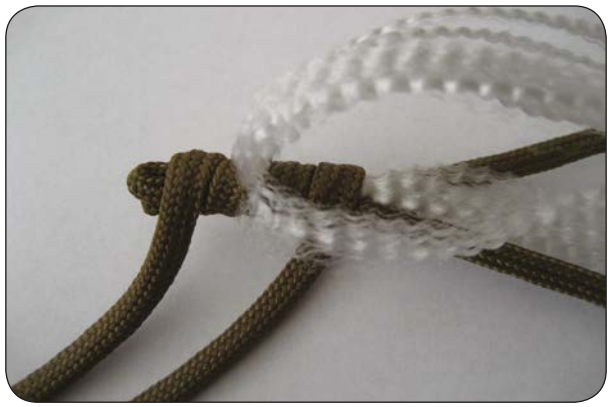
Cut six pieces of the center cord to 12". Two of these will be used for the tail and the remaining four will be used for the mane. Each cord is made of two strands twisted together. Separate the two strands at one end, then grab one strand while pinching the other and pull it straight out. This will work better than trying to pull them apart horizontally. Do this to all six pieces. Take each strand, spread it apart at one end, and pinch it between the thumb and index finger. Using the fingernail on the thumb of the other hand and your index finger; slide down the length of the strand, causing it to separate and fluff up. Keep the tail pieces separate from the mane pieces. Fold the tail pieces in half and cut the loop, doubling the amount of hair. Very carefully melt the ends of the cut tail pieces together and then tie an overhand knot to secure them. These fine strands are very flammable, so just a little heat is all that is needed.

Step 3: Make the Horse Nose

Flatten the center fold of the 36" paracord. Overlap the 60" paracord at about ⅛" from the end. Make one wrap with the shorter lead of the 60" cord. Lay the center of the mane hair at the end of this wrap. Make two more wraps with the shorter lead to lock in the mane hair. Fold the mane hair back on itself and in between the center cords being wrapped around. Make five wraps with the longer lead of the 60" cord on top of the first wraps and mane hair.







Step 4: Make the Ears

Cross the longer lead of the 60" cord under the shorter lead then form the ears using the two leads coming from the center of the head. Be sure the mane hair can come out between the ears. Bring the leads from the 60" cord around to lock in the ears. Observe that the left lead crosses over the right lead.

Step 5: Start the Neck

Separate the mane hair into about four equal sections as shown. The three closest to the neck will be used to make the mane and the top sections will be used to make a tuft of hair between the ears. Pull the first section down between the ears and lay it along the bottom lead on the right side. Fold the top lead on the left side around the back, under the neck, then bring it up between the two leads on the right, over the bottom lead and hair on the right, and then back over to the left on the bottom. The weave for the neck is the same as a four-strand diamond braid stitch. Fold the top right lead behind, up between the two leads on the left and lay it down on the right side at the bottom.

Step 6: Continue the Neck

Pull the next section of mane between the ears and lay it along the bottom right lead. Repeat the weave in step five starting with the top left lead. Repeat this step one more time with the third section

of hair, and then one more time without hair. The leads on top should be the shorter leads when done.

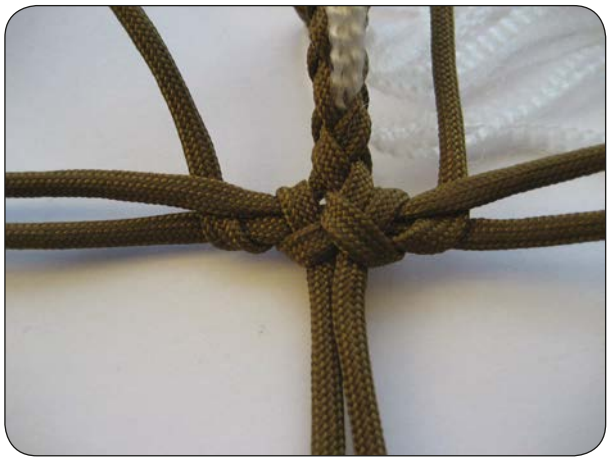
Step 7: Make the Shoulders

Using the short leads on top, fold them back on themselves to form the legs. Overlap the leads in the middle so they come out behind the leg loops. Use the longer leads to form loops around the legs as shown in the picture. Then tighten these loops to form the front shoulders of the horse.

Step 8: Make the Front Legs

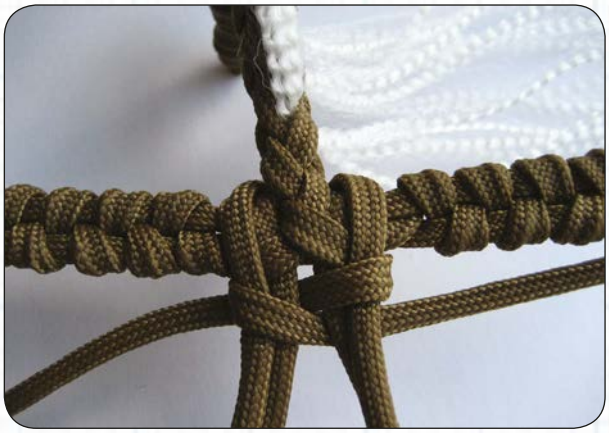
Adjust the size of each leg loop to be 2 ½" from the center of the neck as shown. Start the leg weave

by bringing the leg leads from behind, then up and over the bottom of the leg loop as shown. Continue weaving the legs until there are six loops on top of the legs as shown in the completed picture. The leads should exit out the top and back of the leg.



Step 9: Make the Horse Back

Fold the last two leads back across the top of the horse shoulder. Make the leg loops 3 ½" long. Fold the leads under the horse and cross them in the middle. Start the back weave by folding the leads around and over each leg as shown in the picture. Continue this weaving pattern until there are five loops on each side of the horse. This makes the back of the horse. Keep the weave tight.



Step 10: Add the Tail

Make one more weave on the back, keeping it loose so the tail can be inserted. Insert the tail and then tighten the weave. Lock in the back weave by bringing the leads around from the back and down inside the leg as shown.

Step 11: Make the Back Legs

Start the weave by bringing the leads from behind and in between the legs, over the top and down the center of the legs as shown. Continue the weave for each leg until there are six loops on the outside of each leg. The leads should finish pointing to the outside of the leg as shown in the completed picture.

Step 12: Finishing Touches

Cut the leads for each leg to ⅛" from the leg. Trim back the wire inside. Melt the lead with a lighter and smash down to finish the leg. Carefully melt the tail knot on the bottom of the horse and smash down to lock in place. Trim the tuft of hair between the ears to about ⅛", or as desired. Trim the tail and the mane as desired. The mane and tail can be made more fine or hairy by pulling the little hairs apart. Squeeze the horse's back to make it a little narrower for the army man to sit on.

Step 13: Done

Pose the front and back legs and neck to make a fine steed.

Octopus

By natdiamond

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-Octopus-by-Charles-Parell/)

This was something I had fun making, so I figured I would share with you how I did it. The arms are bendable so he can be moved around for good decoration. I made this first in black and green but was not 100% happy with the look. So I went with purple as the body, aqua arms, and white suckers.

Step 1: Supplies

You will need:

- Around 100 feet of purple paracord to be safe
- 6 feet of aqua paracord
- 20 feet of white paracord
- Four 13 inch lengths of 12-gauge copper or aluminum wire (no sharp ends—file them smooth)
- Toilet paper tube
- This pineapple knot tutorial: http://www.khww.net/articles.php?article_id=145
- Some pins
- 1 or 2 pieces of newspaper

We'll make the head first. Print the pineapple knot tutorial, cut it out, and tape it around the toilet paper tube so the ends meet up. Then stuff the tube tightly with the scrap newspaper. Now push pins in all of the red dots on the tube. Next, weave the knot using one 15 foot piece of purple cord for the white line and one 15 foot piece of purple cord for the blue line on the tube. Don't remove the core out of these strands.

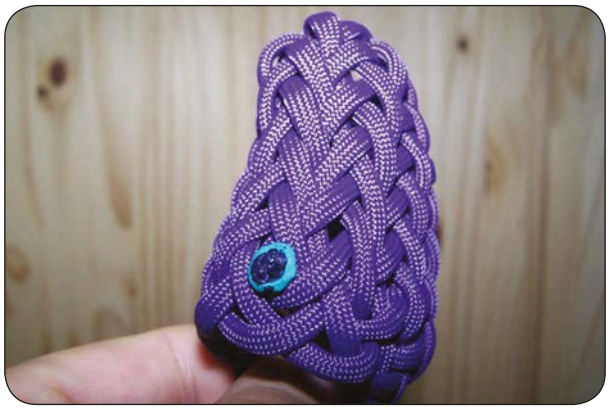
Step 2: Make the Head

Next, loop a small length of purple cord through some of the outer loops. The idea is to close up one end to make the top of the octopus head. I used the

end that did not have the excess strands from making the pineapple knot. Feed the ends of the loop down into the head then push it almost inside out so you can knot the ends together inside the head. Any leftover strands on the bottom can have their ends melted and tucked up inside to hide them.

Step 3: Make Eyes

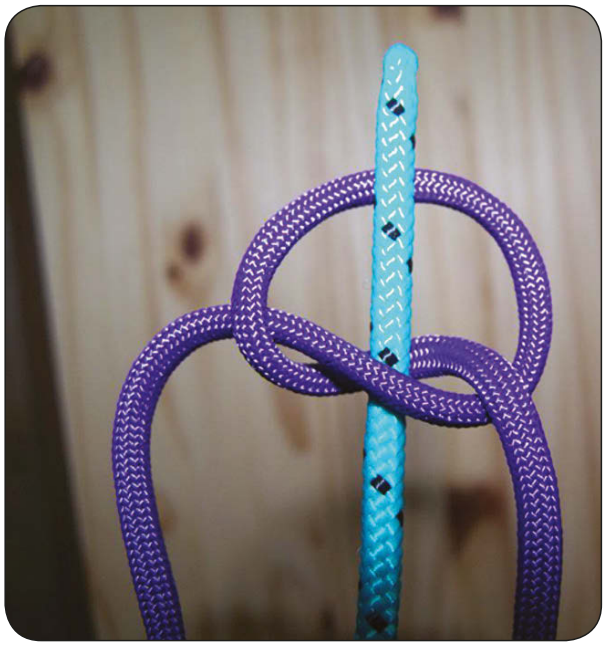
Now you want to make his beady little octopus eyes. Take a long strand of the aqua cord and pull back a few inches of the outer core to reveal the inner strands. Then tie three overhand knots with the core strands right on top of each other to make a small ball. Trim off any excess. Then cut a 6" length of the aqua cord below the end with the ball. Grab the inner core from the end you just cut and pull the inner core back into the shaft so the ball rests inside the end of the aqua cord like a bird in a nest (or an eye in a socket I guess). Then gently melt it in place.



Step 4: Tentacles

Now we'll make the tentacles. Cut four strands of the aqua cord 15" long, then remove the core strands. Then melt one end closed. Next, slide a piece of 12-gauge wire in the hollow core until it stops at the melted end. Then stretch out the cord down the length of the wire, cut, and melt the end closed. The object is to not have any play in the ends of the cord; the wire should be right up to where the end is melted. Do this for all four strands of wire.

Next you want to cut about a 3 foot piece of white cord. Remove the core, then cut it into 1½" pieces. These will be the suckers. They are cut a little long now, but we'll trim them up later.



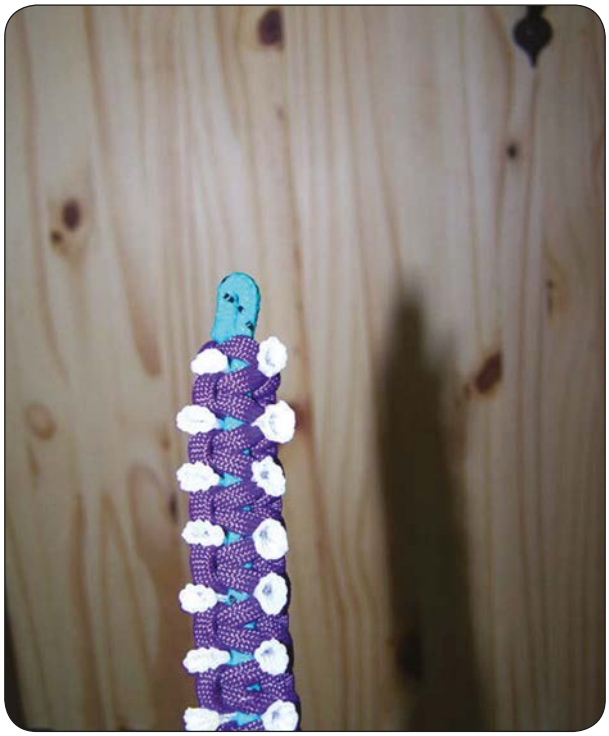
Step 5: Keep Going

Do this all the way until you reach the other end of the aqua wire. Then cut and singe the end of the knot.

Step 6: The Suckers

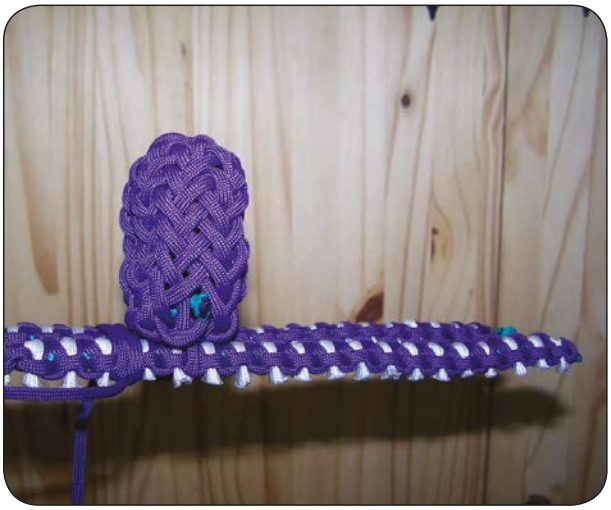
At this point we'll make the suckers look more real. Starting with one tentacle at a time, trim all of the ends of the white cords down to around ¼" to ⅜". You may want to only trim a few at a time, just to see what length looks the best to you. Any longer and they don't look good. After you trim the ends down, insert a pen or pencil into the end of a white piece and rotate the other end of the pen in a big circle to "bell" out or flange the end into a bell or sucker shape.

Do the same for all of the suckers. Even if you discolor it a little with too much heat, it's okay. For this process I've used a lighter and it works, but I found that a butane torch lighter with a fine point works best for me. I can make little circles around each one individually.



Step 7: Assembly

Now that all the parts are done, it's time for final assembly. Take two tentacles and put them side by side, suckers down, and put the octopus head right in the middle. Then tie the head tightly around the two tentacles and knot it underneath. Then cut and singe the ends. Cut a 3 foot piece of purple cord and tie a clove hitch just under that first knot. This will be the start of a square hitch that will tie the other two tentacles to the first two with the head on them. The clove hitch needs to sit far enough below center so that the two other tentacles, when put together, sit centered under the first two in a plus shape (+).



Step 8:

Try different colors and have fun!

Paracord Guys

By swim_guys5150
(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-Guys/)

These guys look great on backpacks and are fun to play with.

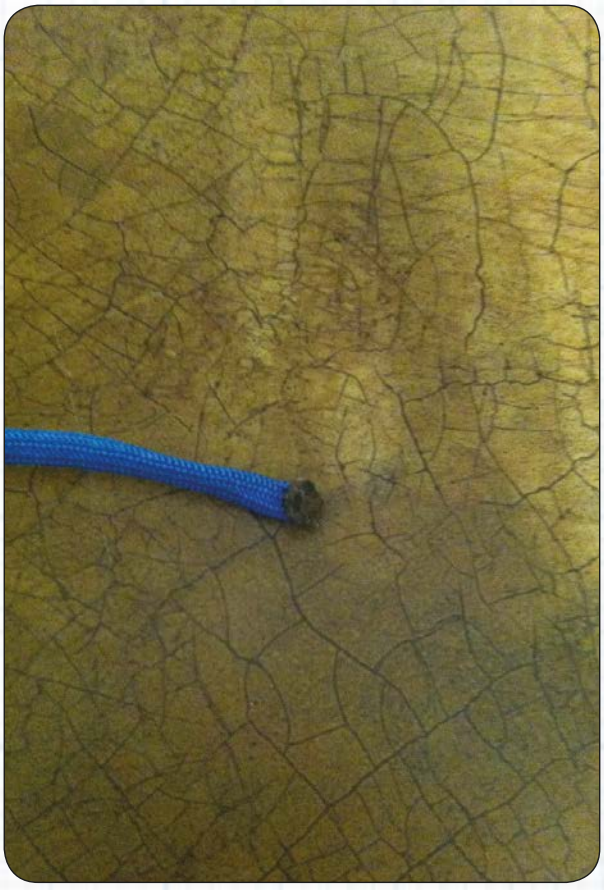
Step 1: Supplies

You need:

- Two different colors of paracord scraps, each one about a foot
- Lighter
- Scissors
- Key ring

Step 2: Burn Rope

You will need to make sure that all ends are melted.



Step 3: The Head and Key Ring

Tie the knot as shown in the picture.

Step 4: The Body

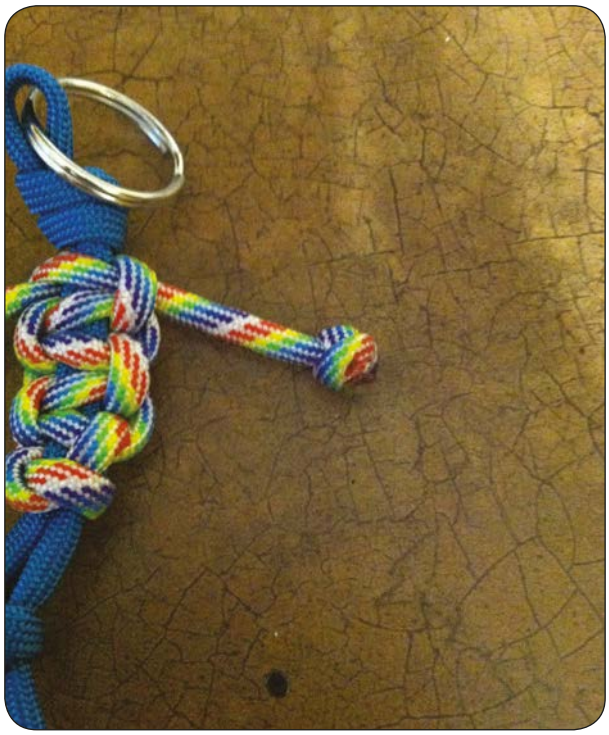
Start with an overhand knot then proceed to make the cobra knot until you have the body length you want. Remember to pull tight.

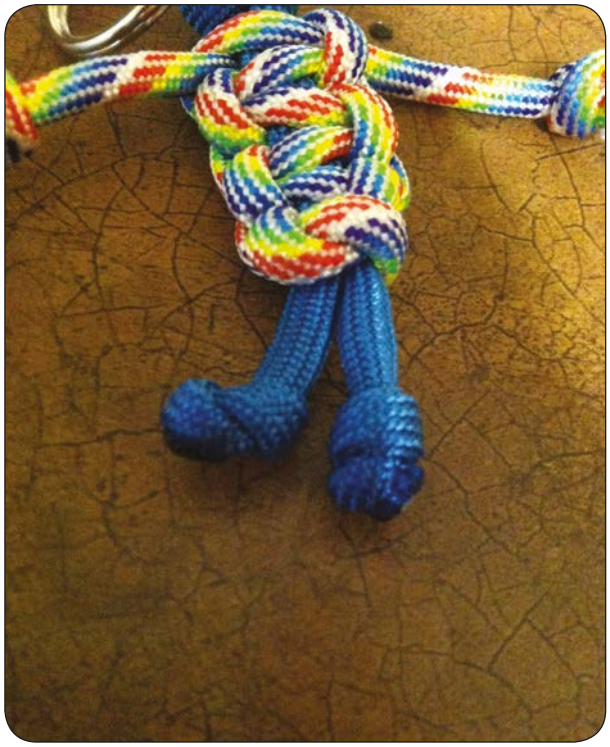
Step 5: Hands and Feet

Tie overhand knots on the legs and arms. I suggest making the arms go down to the bottom of the body.

Step 6: Cut and Burn

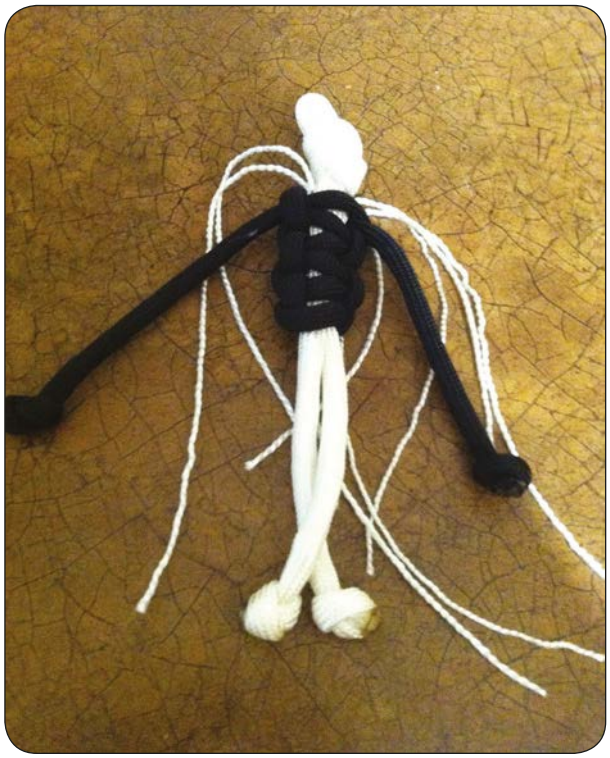
Cut the ends then melt them. Using scissors press the melted end into the hand, and voila! You're done!





Step 7: Other Fun Ideas!

Let your imagination do the work for you, and have fun!



Pet Accessories

Dog Leash

Pet Harness

Dog Collar

Dog Leash

By JJ Johnson

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-Dog-Leash/)

This Instructable will show you how to make a tough and durable paracord dog leash for you and your four-legged friend! Take your pooch hiking, camping, or just outside your house! This leash will hold up in the toughest terrains and in the worst weather; it is truly a great accessory for any outdoorsman, or man in general!

Step 1: Get Some Paracord!!!!

The first step in any paracord project, obviously, is to get some paracord. Now, depending on how long you want your leash to be will determine how much paracord you need. For a regular cobra stitch, it is about a foot of cord for each inch of stitch, minus the core, meaning that for a braided piece of paracord a foot long, you will need approximately 14 feet of cord—12 for the actual braid and 2 for the core (since there are usually two pieces in the middle).

You can never be too careful using paracord, especially for larger projects, so always use a couple feet extra for the bigger projects. Now, for the king cobra stitch, it's about a foot and a half per inch, since the braid is much larger, but you don't have to account for the core, so don't worry about that. My paracord leash used about 160 feet of cord, since it was a little over 6 feet long, with about a foot and a half of handle, and I did a king cobra stitch. I cut about 175 feet just to be safe, and it was a little too close for comfort. If your piece is too short, you have to start over, and that is not an option when you are braiding this much. Let's get started!

Step 2: Cobra and King Cobra Stitches

The cobra stitch is relatively simple, and the king cobra even simpler. First, there needs to be a "core," and the core dictates how long your braid will be. The first step is to find the middle of your piece and measure how long it needs to be, and hitch knot it to whatever you are tying to—in this case, the hook for the end of the leash. You then take one end, place it over the core, leaving a slight loop, then take the other piece, go over the first piece, but under the core, and up through the loop. To get the stitch you want, you repeat those steps, but switch over every time. There are plenty of online tutorials if you need some in-depth explaining. For the king cobra, you simply double back over the cobra, using it as your core, giving it the extra size and strength.

Step 3: Tools

You don't need much, just the standard stuff for a paracord project!

- Paracord
- Scissors
- Lighter
- Clip
- Tape measure
- Time

Step 4: The Hitch

To start my leash, I just did a regular hitch knot. Because the clip is very wide, in addition to the king cobra stitch, I wrapped the loop around several times and pulled it through. A basic hitch wraps once around and through, but to add the width you just wrap a little extra! The reason for this type of hitch is to allow the connection to be very sturdy and not slide around, as you will see later. I tied a piece of scrap cord around the end by my hitch just to keep it in place during the process.

Step 5: The Handle/Cord Management

The handle is the trickiest part of this project, but if you can figure it out, the rest is cake, and it will look awesome. After I hitched the cord onto the clip and measured out my desired length, I made a loop with the paracord for the handle. It is tricky to start, but theoretically simple. After I made the loop, what I did to make the handle is "core jump." I took the two braiding strands and instead of braiding them right on to the end, I began braiding them around the bottom where the loop met the leash. By doing this, the handle was secured for the rest of the braiding. After I "core jumped," I just cobra stitched my way around the handle first! This is an important step when you come back with the king cobra stitch.

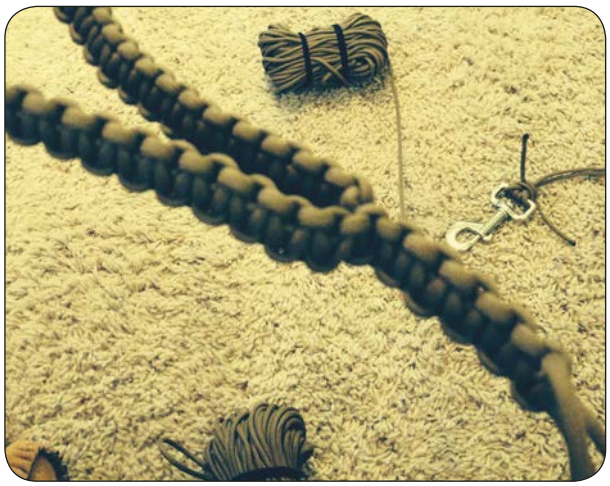
Note: When working with large amounts of paracord like this, I found it best to wrap the paracord up and put a couple hair ties or rubber bands around it (hair ties work best because of their cloth covering, allowing the paracord to slide out relatively easily compared to a rubber band). By doing this, you will only have to pull the bundled paracord through your braids instead of 70–80 feet at a time—this step is one of the most important, as it will save you hours.

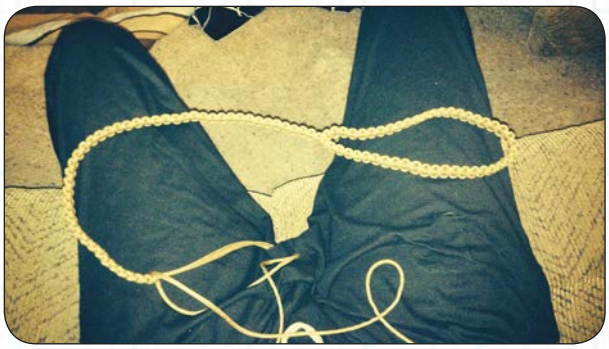
Step 6: Finishing the First Step of the Handle

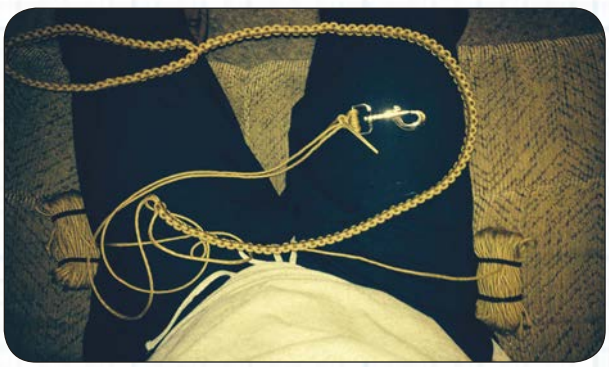
After braiding around the handle, you will come back around to the original core, the one which is about 5 ½ feet long in my case. Here, you will simply "core jump" back to the long piece, giving it a somewhat seamless loop in the braid. This step is important because it adds a level of "integrity" in the strength of the leash by making the handle one piece with the leash. This leash is made out of one solid piece of paracord, giving it a ridiculous amount of strength.

Step 7: Braid, Braid, Braid!

After you get past the handle, the only thing to do is braid that cord all the way down! I suggest watching a movie or something, as this part takes a little while. As you notice how the handle is formed, remember that we will be going back over it all, making it look even cooler! As you near the bottom, it is best to braid as close as you can to the clip, making it as wide as you can, since when we double back and make the king cobra, it will be close to even. This part is easy, and we are halfway done!!!



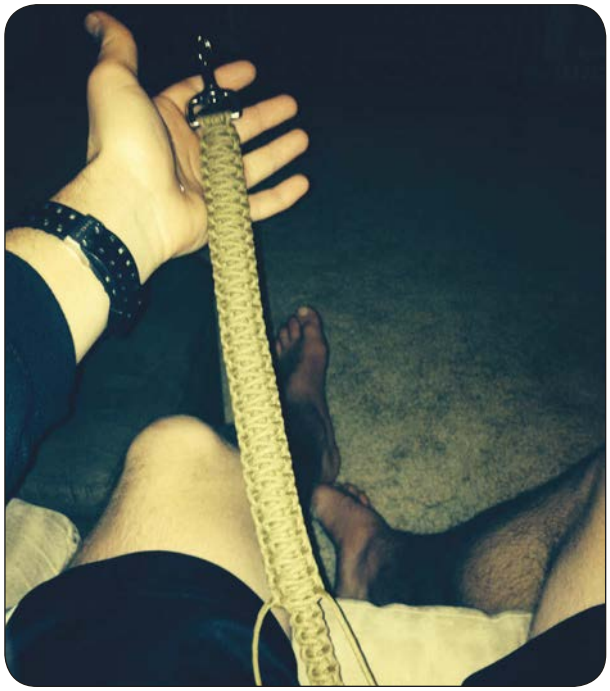




Step 8: The King Cobra

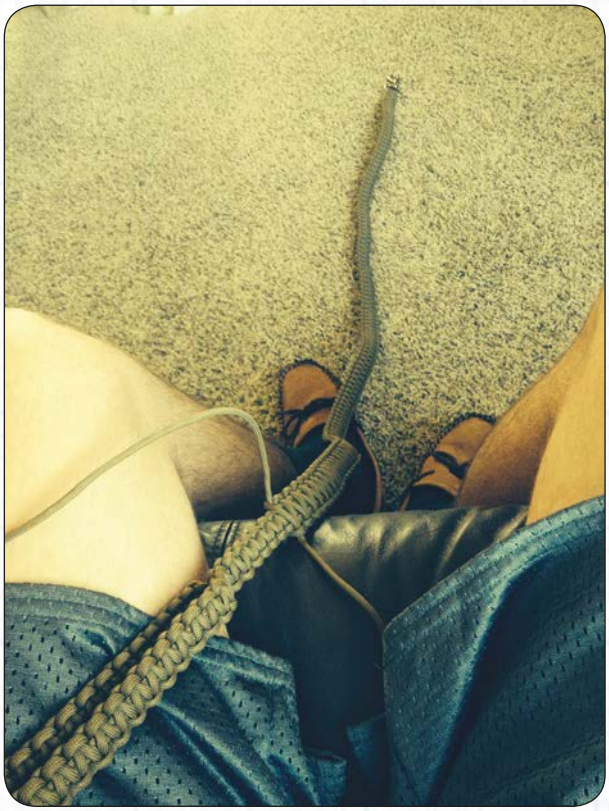
The king cobra stitch is extremely simple, especially after using the regular, peasant cobra. All you do, after braiding up to the clip and as wide as possible, is simply turn around and use the first cobra stitch as your core! It is important that you go as close to the clip as possible, securing that connection so that the leash won't rotate and twist. After turning

around, you just braid all the way back up! We are on the homestretch!



Step 9: Finishing Up

After braiding all the way back up to where the handle begins to forms, it is time to finish up! Once you reach this point, you can just pick a side of the handle to braid and go all the way around. After reaching the point where the long part of the leash starts, it is time to cut and burn the ends. Just pull that thing tight, cut it close, and make sure the end aren't going to slip through! We are done!



Step 10: Lastly, Thank You

Now that we are finished with the sweet leash, it is time to enjoy it with your pup! The leash is shown restraining a vicious Jack Russell, but it was made for a friend with bigger dogs. Leashes like this are unique, durable, and quite the masculine accessory for anyone who wants to keep a handle on their dog!

Pet Harness

By mymyjames2000

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-Pet-Harness/)

If you have a pet that needs to go outside, there is a good chance that you own a collar and leash. Collars are great, but harnesses are more secure since they come around your pet in the front and the back. I wanted to make a harness for my cats, and as I knew how to do the cobra stitch (that's the one used to make paracord bracelets) and I had some left-over paracord, I figured out how to make a harness.

Step 1: Gather Your Materials

For a paracord harness you will need:

- Two plastic buckles
- Paracord
- Scissors
- Candle

Note: You don't need the wooden dowel seen in photos; I only used that to show how to use the cobra stitch.

Step 2: Measure Your Pet

As noted in the picture, you need three measurements: one for around the belly, one for around the neck, and one that equals the distance between the points of the first and second measurements.

Step 3: Learn the Cobra Stitch

Now it is time to start the cobra stitch. All you need to do is pull your cord so two "strands" come down the middle with the two ends down off the sides. Let's call the one on the left "A" and the one on the right "B."

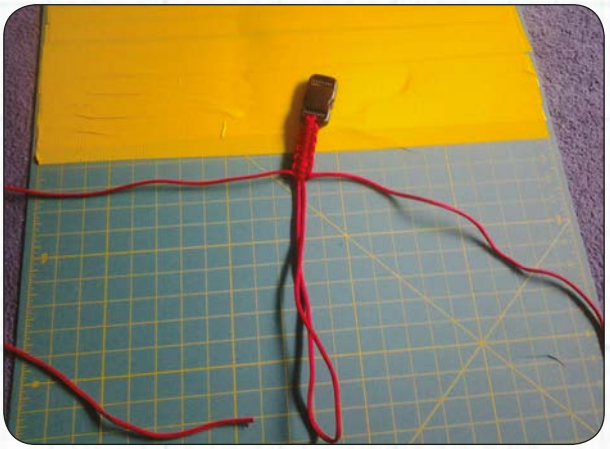
The next step corresponds to the next picture. Now take A and bring it over the middle and under B. Now take B and bring it under the middle and over A. Pull both ends tight. To continue the stitch you repeat until it is the desired length. Feel free to practice until you know the stitch.

Step 4: Cut the Paracord for the Belly

Now cut a length of cord about seven times as long as the belly measurement. You will be left with a fuzzy end with white string coming through the middle. Light a candle and put the end in the flame for a moment. Look at the end. If it is still fuzzy put it back in, but be careful—you don't want to catch the cord on fire! When you are done it should look like the second picture. This process is called fusing, and it will prevent the cord from fraying and coming undone.

Step 5: Start the Belly Portion

First, start by pushing your cord through one of the holes in the buckle (I personally prefer to use the farthest one). Then put both ends into the hole on the other buckle piece. Adjust the two pieces until the cord is the desired length. Start the cobra stitch. Once you have correctly started the stitch, continue until you get a quarter of the way done, then stop. This is where you will add the piece that connects the belly and the neck.

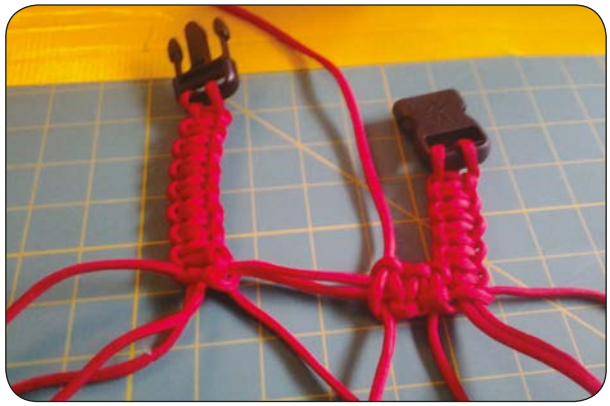


Step 6: Start the Neck Portion

This is the exact same thing as the previous step. The only difference is that the measurements will be different. Again, stop once you are about a quarter of the way done.

Step 7: Adding the Belly/Neck Connecter

This is one of the hardest parts of creating a pet harness. The goal here is to connect the two pieces. This can be done by laying the two pieces side by side. In the picture I have my neck piece on the right and the belly piece on the left. Now make one loose stitch on each piece, as shown in the next picture. The best way to describe this is that the two loops are like the two holes in the plastic buckles. Cut your third piece of cord and fuse the ends. Now loop the cord through the piece on the left just like you would if you started the stitch on the buckle, then loop it through the other side like the other piece of the buckle. Stitch all of the way across.

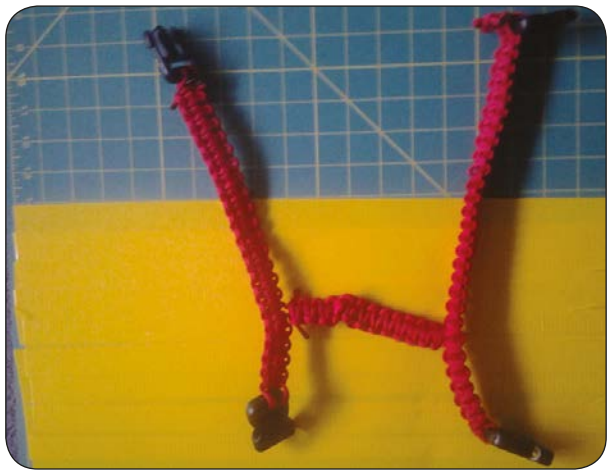


Step 8: Finishing the Belly and Neck Segments

Continue the stitch all of the way down. Note: If you run out of cord, grab some more and fuse the two pieces together.

Step 9: Finishing the Harness

Now all you have to do is cut the remaining ends off and fuse them. I have found that attaching a clip to the belly segment is extremely useful for attaching the leash.



Dog Collar

By mattrush
(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-Dog-Collar/)

This is basically a paracord bracelet but with a metal D-ring in the middle and a plastic buckle. For this one I used two different color cords, a welded aluminum D-ring, and a 25mm buckle I cut out of an old belt (all are available from eBay).

Step 1

Start with one end of the buckle—I chose the male end because the holes are easier to thread the cord through. Take one end of each color cord and thread them from front to back and then split around the side. Then place one under and one over and use a simple overhand knot to secure each end to the opposite color (this is basically a fisherman's knot with something in the middle). Then slide it down and pull it tight. Be sure to leave a small amount of tail end on each end.

Step 2

My labradoodle pup needed a 15 inch collar, so I measured it out. Do the same for your pet. Then thread the other side of the buckle on to the ends and slide it all the way down to the right size. Then begin with a cobra stitch; this is the process of one end under and one end over then threading each through the opposite loops.

Step 3

Slide the D-ring between the middle two strands, then tie a knot—but tie it over the buckle. Three or four knots and you should get to the other side of the buckle.

Step 4

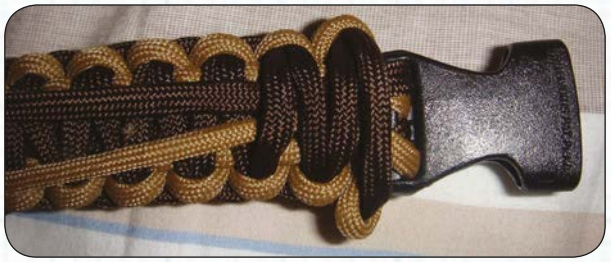
When you get to the end of the run, tie one last knot loosely, then thread the two ends through the visible side of the fisherman's knot. The strongest way to do it is to then thread it back through the buckle and under the opposite side of the fisherman's knot. After this you can start the cobra stitching again.

Step 5

Once you get back to the buckle, thread the knots back through the D-ring and continue. Make sure the D-ring is properly secured; if you clip a lead on here you don't want it to come loose!

Step 6

This step is much like securing the other end when you got to the end of the first run. Tie a loose knot and thread the ends over the buckle and out the other side. Then use a pair of pliers to pull up the last four knots. Thread both ends through the loops and then, using the pliers, tighten it all up. Then cut the ends close to the base of the collar. As usual with the last step of a paracord project, apply a lighter and wax the ends over, I found that if you overdo it with the lighter and actually melt the ends back into the collar it makes it a lot smoother and more comfortable for your lucky pooch.



Hiking and Camping Accessories

Crampon Hack
Drawstring Pouch
Water Bottle Holder
Bottle Strap Fix
Leatherman Pouch
Strap Wrap
Fishing Lure
Compression Sack
Knife Handle

Crampon Hack

By chokapi

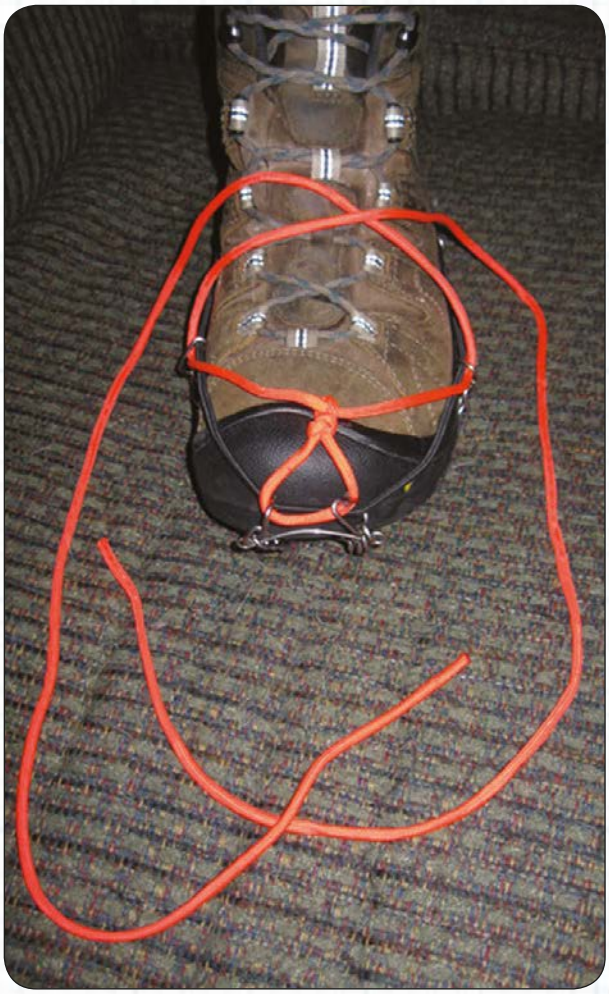
(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracordcrampon-hack/)

Okay, I should have known better. I bought a pair of Hillsound-style trail crampons on eBay for $12. I put them on and began a little meander through places people seldom walk—off-trail. I kid you not, after a hundred yards, one of them blew up. I did have my day pack with me, and about 30 feet of paracord. I got to thinking, and was able to rig a stable lacing system to keep the crampon on. I tested it for about another quarter mile. Solid.

Initially, the loops on the heel and toe were tied. I found, to my astonishment, that melting the ends together is crazy strong. I have yet to be able to break the bond by hand/foot combination.

Note: When doing this at home, be sure to lay the chains flat so they are not kinked. Also, the ones I bought have "triangular" ties to the crampon chains. I chose to put the lace through the "fat" side. An advantage to paracord is that it won't stretch when wet.

KEEN



KEEN

Drawstring Pouch

By snipir
(http://www.instructables.com/id/Easy-Paracord-Drawstring-Pouch/)

First off, I can't exactly say that I am the originator of this design. Since I was going for a simple design, I used overhand knots for 99% of this design; since it's so simple, I'm sure others have ended up doing this at some point or another.

Step 1: Stuff You'll Need

You'll need:

- 100 ft of paracord
- Some hardy object to use as a base/template (I used a trashcan. It's about a foot tall and has a diameter of about 7 inches)
- Something to cut the paracord with (I used my multitool)
- Lighter to seal the ends of the rope

Ready? Let's go!

Step 2: Drawstring

First off, we'll need a drawstring. Take one end of your cord and wrap it around your object with about 3 inches or so extra on each end (Pictures 1 and 2). Now, holding onto that, cut that length off your 100 ft of cord.

Here is the first chance for you to add your own flair to this design. We'll need a stopper for this drawstring. I used a Celtic button knot here (Picture 3). Also, tie up the end of the drawstring (Picture 4). With that done, just slip your drawstring back onto your template!

NOTE: Don't forget to burn/close the ends of your paracord!

Step 3: Off We Go!

Again, you can use any knot you'd like. For this Instructable, I used a simple overhand knot (Pictures 1 to 3). It's quick, dirty, and gets the job done. Take one end of your paracord and tie it onto the drawstring. I usually pull the drawstring tight with the help of the

stopper. Now move 1½ to 2 inches to the right on the drawstring and tie another overhand knot. Make sure to leave just a bit of slack between them. Repeat this over and over again until you reach the end of the entirety of the drawstring.

Note: You'll want the distances and slack tension between each knot to be roughly the same. It helps to keep this pretty and uniform.

With that first loop done, you'll want to attach the next knot onto the first rung created by the first and second knots you did. Now continue on knotting while attaching your knots onto each subsequent rung.

Step 4: Keep on Dancing!

Eventually you'll have come to the end of your template, but don't let that deter you! Just keep on doing what you've been doing, but instead of wrapping around the sides of your object, wrap it around the bottom.

Step 5: Finishing It Off

Now here comes my unorthodox way of ending all this. You can follow what I did or you can do your

own thing, but the main idea here is to close off the "net" design.

What I do is take the extra cord I have and just start weaving it through the outside rungs, criss-crossing this way while pulling the edges together. When I figure that it's sufficiently tight, I end the weave with a knot on either a rung or one of the criss-crossing strings.

And with that done, you can cut off any excess cord that you have hanging around. I try to use up all the cord as not to waste any.

Step 6: Admire Your Work!

There you go! Hopefully if everything worked out well you now have your own fully functioning drawstring pouch! Stuff it, fluff it, and have fun!

Water Bottle Holder

By elco_chan

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-Wrap-Bottle/)

I will show you how to make a wrap for a straight-walled aluminum water bottle out of 550 paracord. I will be using some decorative knots that are fairly easy to master during the process. We will be using a modified Chinese good luck knot and a cross knot.

Step 1: Supplies

You will need the following:

- An aluminum water bottle
- Four strands of paracord each measuring 112" inches (448" total) or shorter depending on what you do at step 6
- A lighter (for melting the ends of the paracords closed)
- Scissors or knife
- About 4 to 6 hours

Step 1: Choosing the Water Bottle

The water bottle I chose to use was a generic aluminum water bottle I got for about $5. It was a good candidate for this project because it is straight walled and has a large mouth. Feel free to use one that has curves to it, it will just be a bit harder to get a tight weave on it since you will have to weave it while it is on the bottle.

Step 2: Starting the Weave

First we will start the Chinese good luck knot for the base knot. Take the four strands of paracord and fold them in half. Put a 90 degree bend in the middle and roll the ends up to make it shorter if you want. Then just follow the steps below. Make sure to cinch it up tight before continuing on to the next steps.

Step 3: Starting a Cross Knot

Now we have eight stands.

Take two of the strands that are next to each other and make an S shape out of the cord, having the rightmost one cross over the left strand, bringing the bottom half of the S under the left strand.

Bring the left strand underneath the S and feed it between the two cords at the very top to the left of itself.

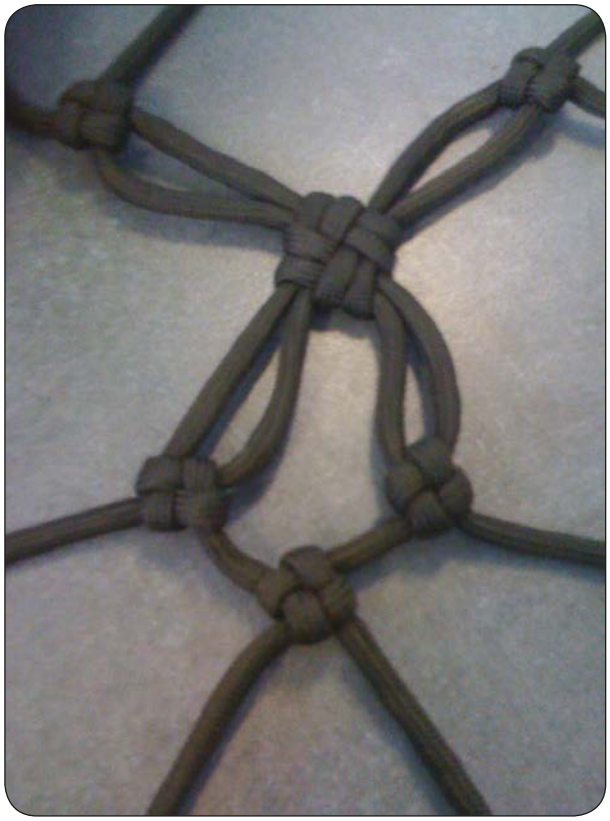
Now feed the same end through the bottom of the S and pull it tight.

Now repeat three more times to have four cross knots evenly spaced from the Chinese knot.

Take the right strand and the left strand from knots that are next to each other and make a cross knot between them. Leave about 1" between the knots to get a good symmetrical pattern. Now repeat three more times again with the knots next to it.

Step 4: Starting the Diamond Pattern

Now that we have four knots that come over the bottom of the water bottle we can begin the diamond pattern of the weave.



Step 5: Continuing the Diamond Pattern

Now just keep repeating the diamond pattern until you reach the desired length that you would like.

Step 6: Crossroads

At this point you can do one of two things—you can either end the weave here and just tie some cross knots closer together to have them squeeze the neck of the bottle, or you can continue on and make a handle for it and also have a weave you can slide off if you needed to ever wash the bottle. I am going to go with the latter of the two options.

We are just going to narrow the weave down to two groups of four strands for the handles. To do this just take two of the strands and treat them as one strand, then make another cross knot further up. I have 2" of cord from the small cross knot to the large knot to begin the handle.

Now just make the cross knots really close to each other, and you will get a thick flat handle.

Step 7: Joining the Strands Together

Joining the strands together can be quit tricky. What I did is combine two cross knots at the top. Then I took all eight of the cords and fed them up through the square hole that is in the center, with the strands facing upwards. I trimmed them evenly and then fused all of the ends together with the lighter. This is not as pretty as I wanted the finish knot to be, but I could not think of another way to bring the ends together.

Step 8: Finished

And you are finished. I decided to make the wrap removable just in case you wanted to wash the water bottle and did not want to wait for the weave to dry. Thinking about it, you could make that same type of weave for a wine bottle or any other type of container if you wanted to tote it around with you.

Bottle Strap Fix

By rstupplebeen
(http://www.instructables.com/id/Nalgene-Cap-Paracord-Fix/)

What do you do when your vintage Nalgene with BPA has a broken cap strap? Fix it with paracord! Paracord is durable, cheap, and has a nice feel to it, so it is ideal for a cap loop that will get lots of use.

Step 1: Remove Broken Strap

Cut off the broken piece. Find or cut an appropriate length of paracord. I have a personal aversion to cutting rope, so I used what I had already cut. I wanted to make sure that the cap did not hit the table when in the open position. I suggest also adding three times the loop's length for braiding of the strap as a good starting point for the initial rope length.

Step 2: Tie Slip Knot for Top

Paracord fits snugly in the flange at the top of the cap. Create a slip knot (fisherman's knot) at one end of the rope. You want to make sure that this is a tight knot so that the rope does not fall off the top.

Step 3: Tie Other End onto Bottle Neck

Tie a figure eight knot and tighten appropriately so that the loop can freely rotate when tightening the cap while also not falling off while carrying by the loop.

Note: I used a monkey's fist at end of the rope because this is a reused scrap of rope and because monkey's fists are awesome and annoying to untie.

Step 4: Braid Strap

From here tune the length of the strap to obtain a desired length. I did not want the cap to touch the table when in the open position. After this has been done, decide if you want a thicker, stiffer strap. If so, try a variety of braiding methods to get the desired feel and stiffness. I tried about five different versions before settling on this version. Take the working end and thread it up to the cap. Create a series of figure eights to create the braid.

nalgene
MADE IN USA

Leatherman Pouch

By stuwegie

(http://www.instructables.com/id/How-to-make-a-Paracord-Leatherman-Pouch/)

This Instructable will show you how to weave a custom-made pouch using paracord. The method used can be easily modified to fit a range of items, from multitools and torches to mobile phones. It is very simple to make and doesn't use any fancy or difficult knots.

This particular pouch used a total of 25 feet of 550 paracord. However, if you are making a pouch for something larger, then obviously you would need a little more.

When making anything it's always best to start with the best materials you can find, which is why I always recommend using genuine military-spec 550 paracord. The better the cord the longer your pouch will last.

Step 1: Materials

For best results use genuine 550 paracord. I purchase mine from Supply Captain. Many online retailers sell similar-looking but poor-quality cord with no guarantees on the durability of the cord.

You will need:

- Approximately 30 feet of 550 paracord, any color you like
- Scissors to cut the cord
- Lighter to seal the ends of the cord
- A pair of forceps or needlenose pliers
- A hair pin or, if you have one, a permalock needle (not essential, but it helps with the weaving process)
- A scrap piece of wood at least 18 inches long and 3–4 inches wide
- Some drawing pins or something similar to hold the cord in place as you weave.

Step 2: Preparing Your Weave

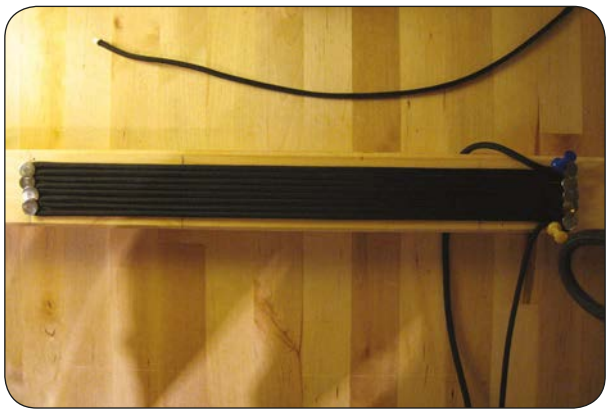
First of all, establish the size of pouch needed for your leatherman.

For my nifty wooden leatherman I will need a length of woven material 12 inches long to fold around it the long way around and still leave some left over for a flap. By laying some strands side by side, I also worked out it needed to be about eight lengths of cord wide.

Using the scrap piece of wood, draw two lines 12 inches apart. This is your length marker,

Cut a piece of cord 10 feet in length and pin it to the wood at one line, then down to the other line and back again until you have used all the cord. Throughout the Instructable these will be referred to as your horizontal strands. You should have a total of 10 in x 12 in horizontal strands pinned at each end. When you pin the cord in place, ensure there is no slack but do not pull the cord too tight, as it will make it difficult to weave.

You will not be using the outermost strand on either side, so you can unpin the ends and leave them loose, leaving you with eight strands.



Step 3: Weaving Your Pouch

You need to cut another length of cord about 12 feet in length. You then need to remove the white internal strands from this cord to make it possible to weave.

For best results you should use something on the end of the cord to make it easier to pass through the weave. As you can see in the picture, I used a hair clip as a needle; however, anything relatively thin and rigid can be used so long as you can attach it to the end of your cord.

Now you can begin the weaving process. The gutted paracord strand will be referred to as your vertical weave throughout the Instructable.

Pass the gutted length of cord over and under the horizontal strands pinned to your wood. Once all the way through, ensure the cord is not twisted (removing the internal strands means it should now lie flat).

Simply repeat the process the other way—under, over, under, over, and under.

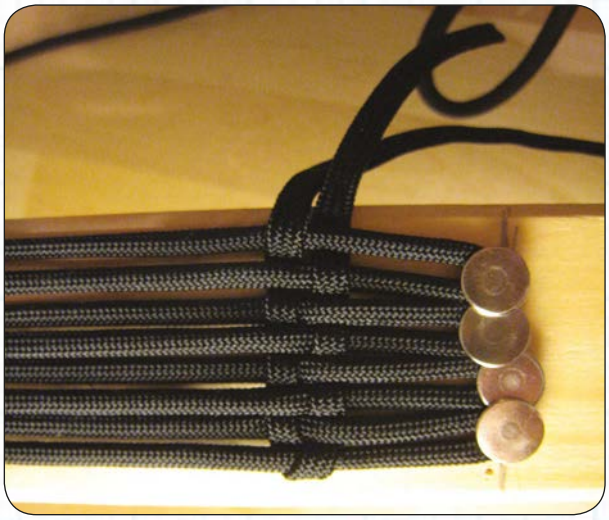
You should be able to tighten up the vertical weave quite easily; if it is difficult to tighten then the horizontal strands pinned to the board may be too tight.

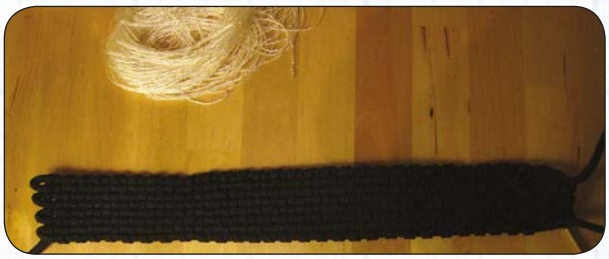
It's important also not to over tighten the vertical weave; there should be no slack, but it shouldn't be pulled too tight either as this will distort the weave.

Simply continue weaving your vertical strands until the entire length is completed. It can be a little tricky at the very end as you will have to remove the weave from your wood to get the last few rows done, but patience is the key.

Once you have completed your weave use your lighter to melt the ends of the cord in place.

You should now have a woven length of material 12" long and about 1½" to 2" wide. On one end you should have your two 12" loose strands.





Step 4: Shaping the Pouch Around Your Leatherman

Wrap the length of woven material around your leatherman to form the shape of your pouch. The two loose strands should be at the front of the pouch (not on the piece that will form the flap).

Keeping your leatherman in place, begin to lace the loose strand down the side of the pouch. You can lace it up however you like but remember not to lace it up too tightly, as you will find it difficult to take out or put in your leatherman if it's too tight.

Once you've laced up both sides you can trim the ends off and use your lighter to melt them in place. As before, if you don't feel confident melting them in place you can sew them in place with a bit of black thread.

Step 5: Adding a Belt Loop

Take the last length of cord, which should be about 3 feet in length, and remove the internal strands. Thread this cord into and through the weave on your pouch, creating two strands for the belt loop. You have the option of finishing the pouch now if you like; however, I made the belt loop a bit more attractive using the cobra stitch.

There are many Instructables showing how to do the cobra stitch so I won't explain it here.

Finally, once you have finished your belt loops, again cut and melt the cord in place using your lighter, and your paracord leatherman pouch is complete!

You could finish it off if you wish by buying a little Velcro or a snap button to keep the flap closed; however, after wearing my pouch for a few days the flap stayed closed on its own.

Step 6: Completed Pouch

Here is the finished article, complete with wooden leatherman!

Strap Wrap

By mattrush
(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-Strap-Wrap/)

The paracord strap wrap is a simple way of tidying up loose ends on your gear using various lengths of paracord. Using paracord instead of things like cable ties has advantages obvious to any paracord fanatic. Depending on the amount of the strap you want to cover and the thickness you want to make it, you can use anywhere from 6 or 9 feet up to 50. Below is a quick five-minute one that I did with about 3 feet of cord on my Maxpedition Monsoon Gearslinger.

Step 1

I have found that in most of my outdoor gear, any webbing strap that is stitched up at the end has a small enough gap to fit a single length of paracord through. The easiest way to do this is with a cable tie.

Step 2

Thread the end without the clip through the end of the strap, then make a loop with it by threading it back on itself. Next, thread paracord through the cable-tie loop and pull the tie until the loop has gone all the way through (pulling the paracord through with it). Then pull the cord through until it is about halfway through.

Step 3

This is based on something I found in an old knot book—it's called the cobra stitch, though I have seen it in other places called other things. It's how survival straps are made and it's basically threading one end in front of a core and one end behind it and then each end through the loop that has been created. Here the core is the strap.

Keep tying the loops in until you have a few in a row.

Step 4

Once you've tied enough loops off that you're happy with it, thread both ends back down the middle and under the loops you've tied. A pair of pliers can be useful depending on how tight you've made the loops. Also you can layer it up a bit by going back on itself and creating a second or third layer. It can be finished off any way you like really. I tried it with a fisherman's knot and a figure eight—its really up to your preference.

Step 5

When you're happy with the end knot just trim the ends and wax with a lighter. I did two of these on the cross straps of my gearslinger and then layered it up with a double one on the grab handle.

Fishing Lure

By RedneckEngineer

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Make-a-Paracord-Fishing-Lure/)

Step 1: Use Those Scraps

This is such a simple and easy project I'm sure you can finish this in a very short time with very few items. It took me about 25 minutes to make one, and that's counting the time I wasted on the first one I messed up.

Materials:

- Fishing hook
- 2" scrap piece of paracord
- Few inches of fishing line

Tools:

- Multi-tool (pliers and knife blade used)
- Lighter (to melt the end of cord)

With the many different colors of paracord you could stock your tackle box with various color lures.

Step 2: Warm and Fuzzy Inside

I at first cut about 2" of cord and then pulled the inner strands. This worked alright until I got to the fluff stage, when I pulled a piece out. Note that once a piece is out don't bother trying to put it back in (I think the sun was getting to me at this point so I tried it—never again).

On my second attempt I melted the cord apart, which worked so much better. Use your flame source of choice (Bic lighter) to melt and separate the cord.

Now take one inner strand and begin to twist it counter-clockwise to fluff it up.

Continue this with all seven strands until it's nice and fuzzy.

Step 3: Beware the Pointy End

Next insert the sharp point of the hook about halfway, then push it so it comes out at the fluff. Beware: blood was spilled during the making of this Instructable. Hooks tend to enter fingers when you least expect it.

Next, take the fishing line and loop it through the eye of the hook and begin to wrap around the paracord.

There are two reasons I had for doing this. One was to make sure the hook is secure and won't come out. The other is, as you can see, the black outer cord is starting to fray, and the wrapping will halt it where I want it to and will maintain the lure's shape.

You've now completed your fishing lure. You then can add this lure to your line and tempt those fish to come and join you for dinner.

Happy fishing!

Compression Sack

By guitarman96
(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-Compression-Sack/)

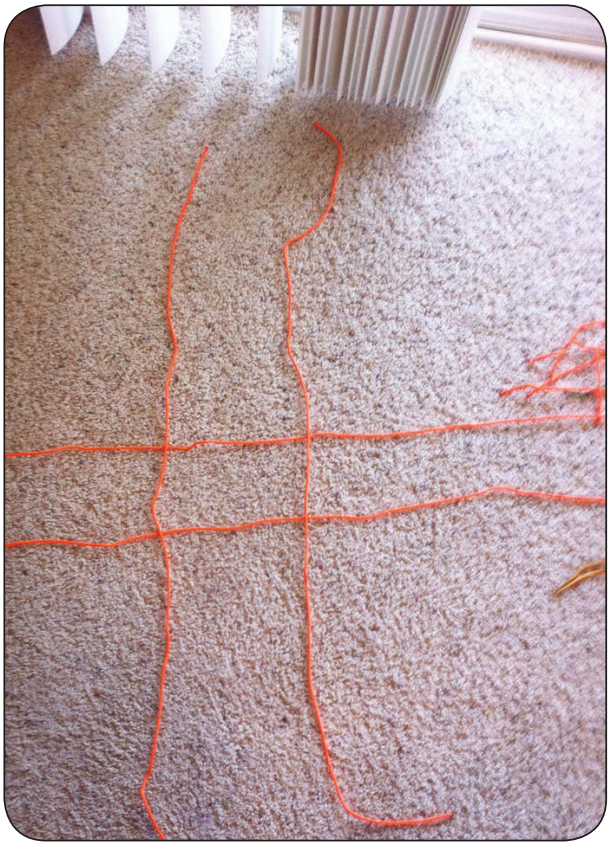
Step 1: Things Needed

- Paracord
- Sleeping bag
- Knowledge.

This Instructable is helpful for the people who don't want to spend $20 on a compression sack and have it break.

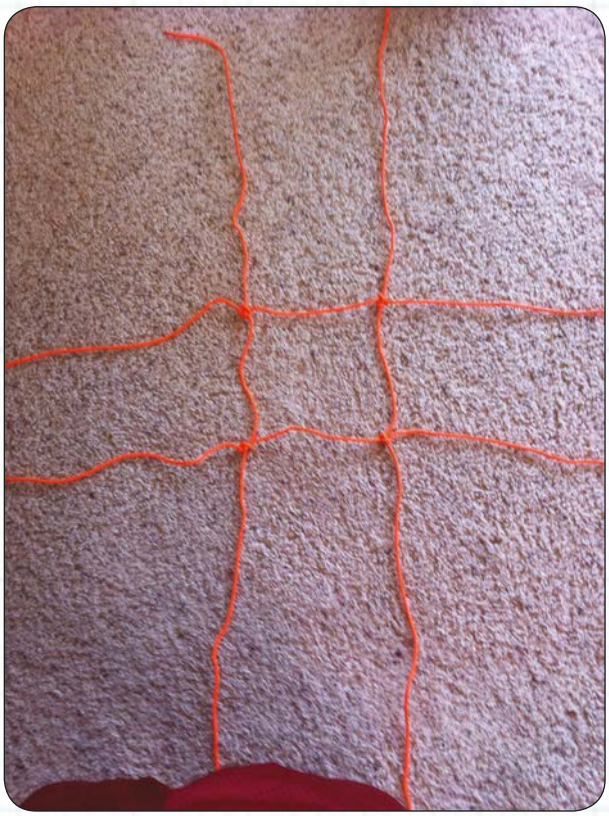
Step 2: Making the Top

You should have about twelve 18" to 20" strands of cord; take four of them and lay them like in the photo.



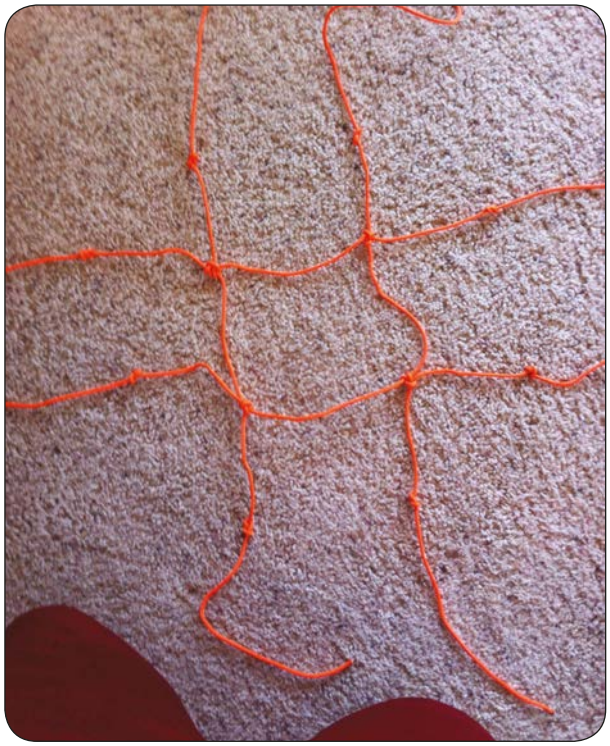
Step 3: Time to Tie the Knot

You then want to tie some overhand knots to tie all four pieces together like in the photo.



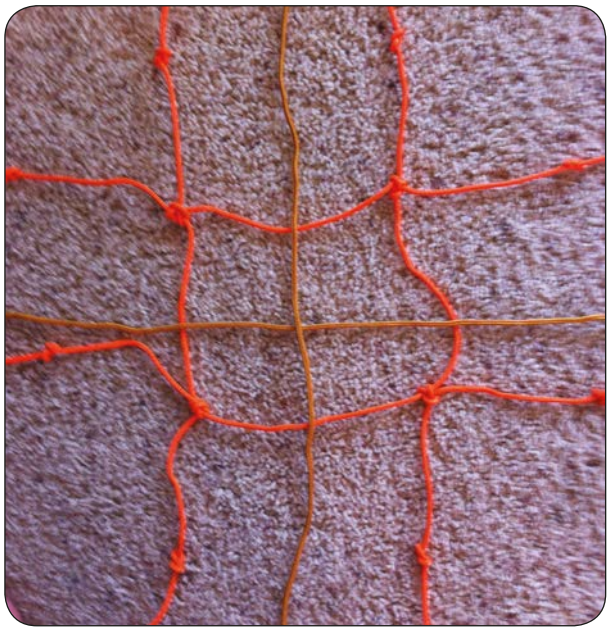
Step 4: More Knots

Tie figure eights roughly 4½ inches from the knots you just tied on all eight strands.



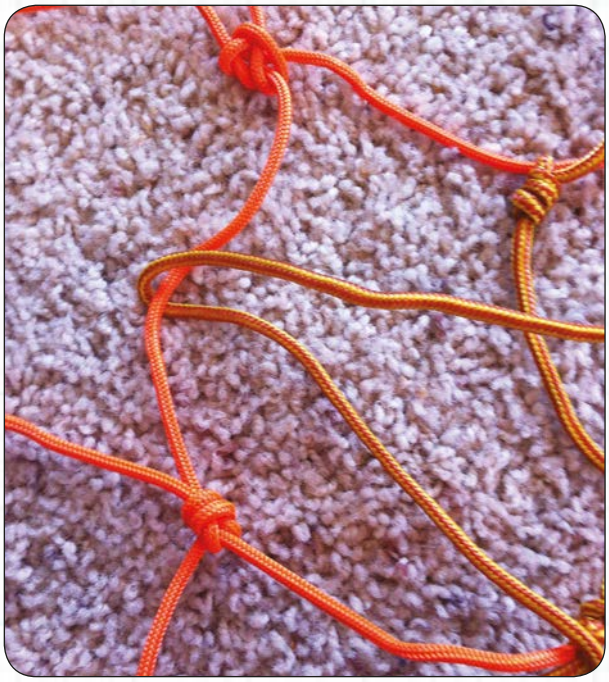
Step 5: Cross Section

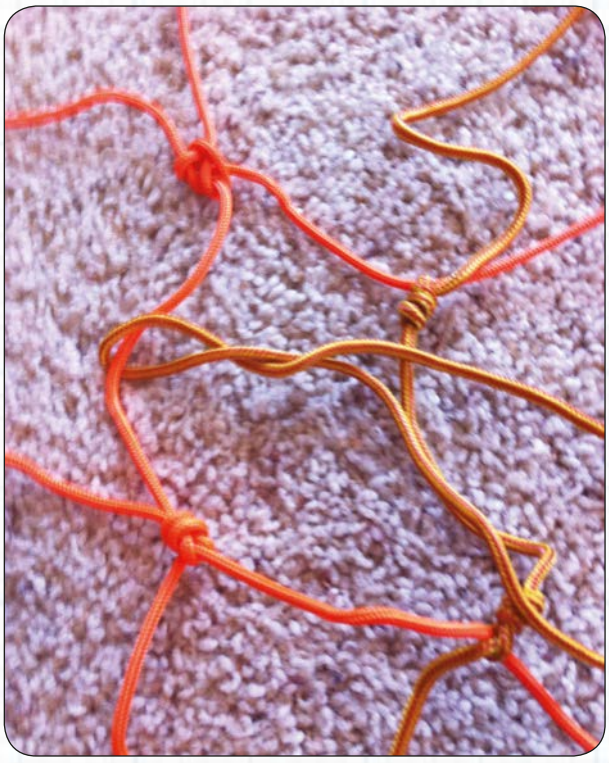
Grab two more strands of cord and lay them like in the photo.

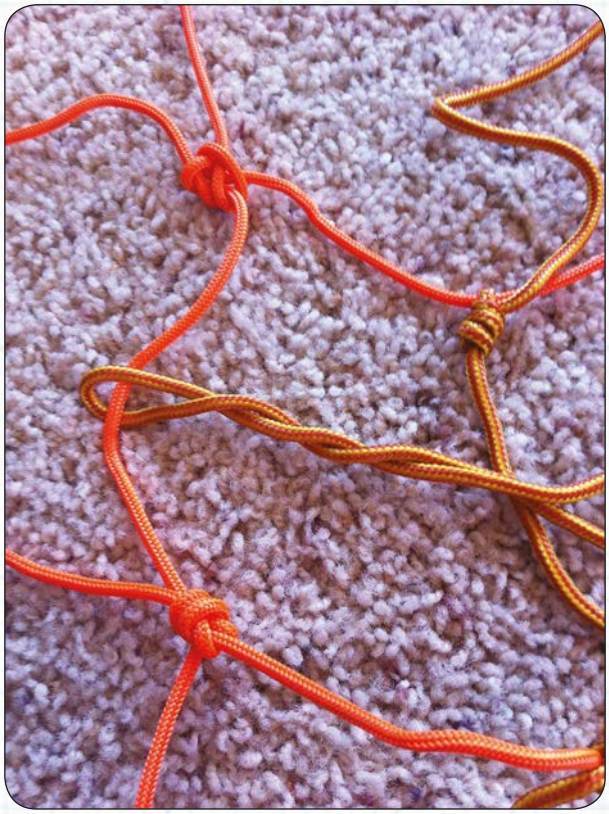


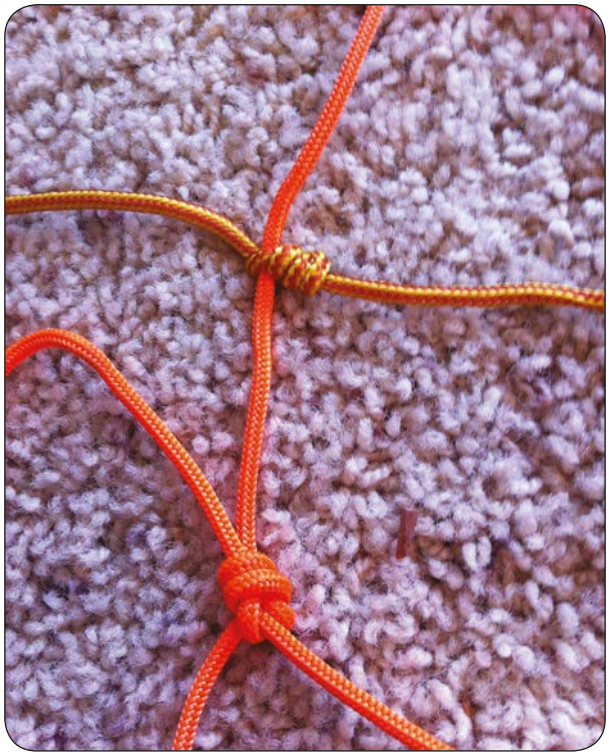
Step 6: More Knots

Attach the two pieces of cord like in the photos. Don't worry if you don't get it right—it took me a few tries. Then go ahead and cut the tags.



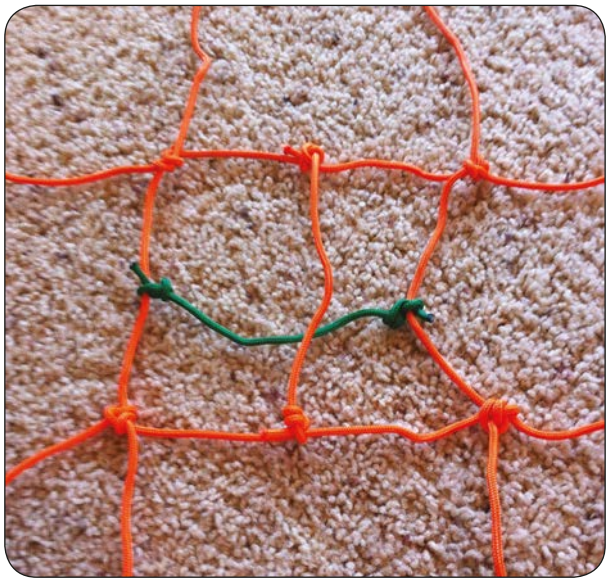






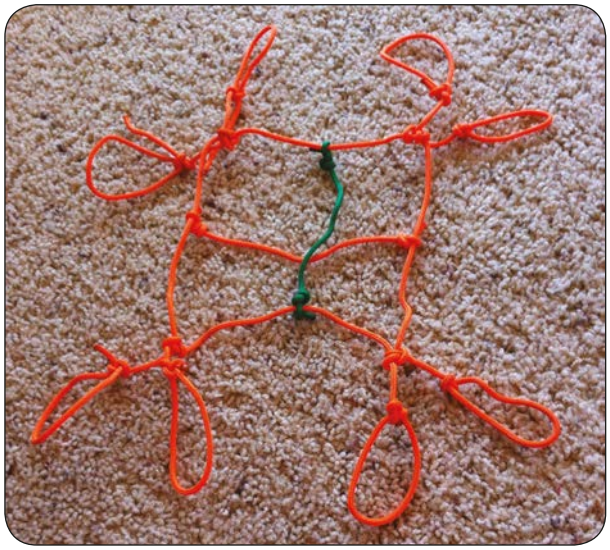
Step 7: The Bottom

Set what you just finished aside and grab six more strands and repeat steps 2 to 3 and step 6.



Step 8: Loop Time

Almost done! Now just tie some loop knots like bowlines at the ends of your tags, making sure they are about the same length.



Step 9: Putting It Together

Roll up your sleeping bag nice and tight like the picture and set it on top of the bottom piece.

Step 10: Putting It All Together

Place the top on top.

Step 11: Use Your Muscles

Push down so that you can fit the figure eights through the bowlines like in the photo.

Step 12: All Done

Mine wasn't as tight as I wanted it to be, so I adjusted some knots. You can see the difference. This works really well if you are trying to fit a full-size sleeping bag into a backpacking pack.

Knife Handle

By oldanvilyoungsmith

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-wrapping-a-knife-handle/)

When people think of a cord-wrapped handle they usually think of a single color wrapped circularly around the handle—boring! So I decided to come up with a good way of mixing two colors for a wrap. This is the second knife I've made with this method. The first one was black and glow-in-the-dark paracord. I was sitting in front of the TV, a knife in one hand, and some glowing and some black paracord in the other. I started messing around, and this wrap is what I came up with.

Step 1: Supplies

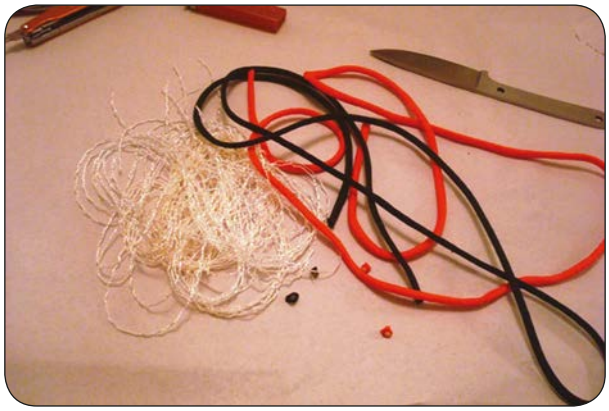
You need:

- Ruler
- Paracord (two colors)
- Lighter
- Multitool (or you can just get pliers, a pointy pokey thing, and a knife for cutting cord)

Step 2: Cut and Gut

Cut the paracord into the needed lengths. I used 4 feet of each color. Just remember that it's easier to cut off extra cord than it is to add cord.

Go ahead and gut the cord also, making sure any melted ends are trimmed, and pull out the inner strands.

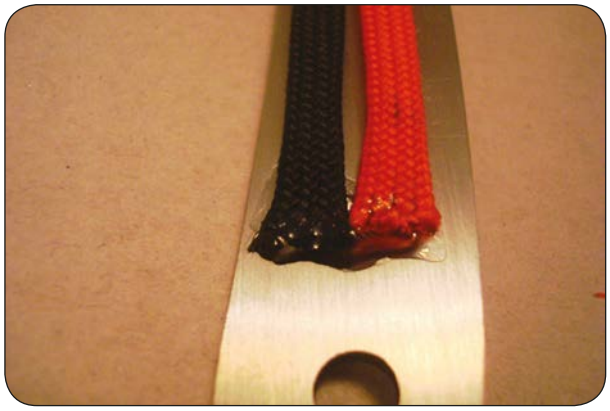


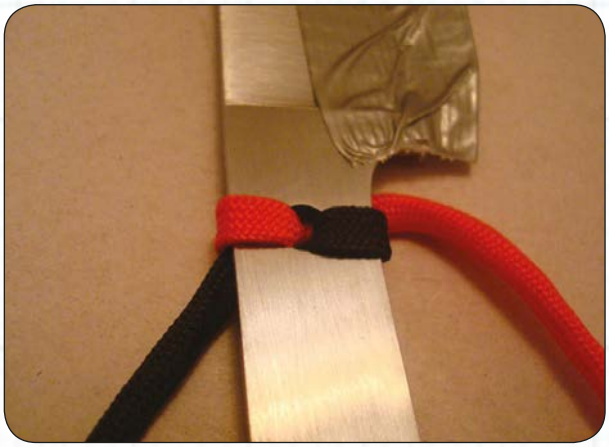
Step 3: Readying for Wrapping

Duct tape the blade (I hate cutting myself while wrapping a knife).

Push an inch or so of cord through the starting hole. This is where we need to think this through. Whichever side you put the strands on, it will create a bump on that side, so I always put them on the inner grip side of the handle. The inner side of the grip is the side where your fingers wrap around, not your palm. It's more comfortable to hold it with the bump on the inner grip side, so I always put it there.

After you push the ends of the cords through the starting hole, take a drop of Super Glue and glue the ends of the cords down; this just helps keep them tidy and out of the way. Just don't glue your fingers together.



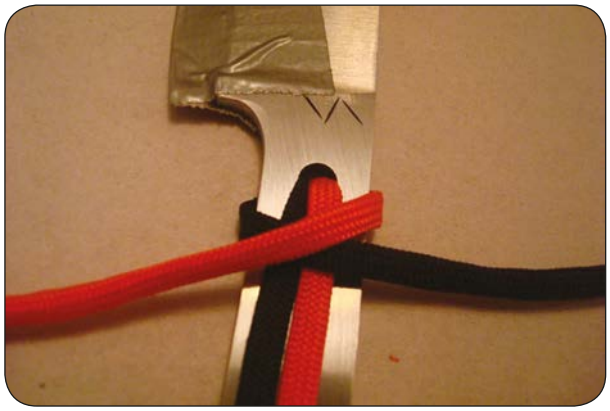


Step 4: The Wrap

You know the first knot you do when you tie your shoes? This is the knot we'll use.

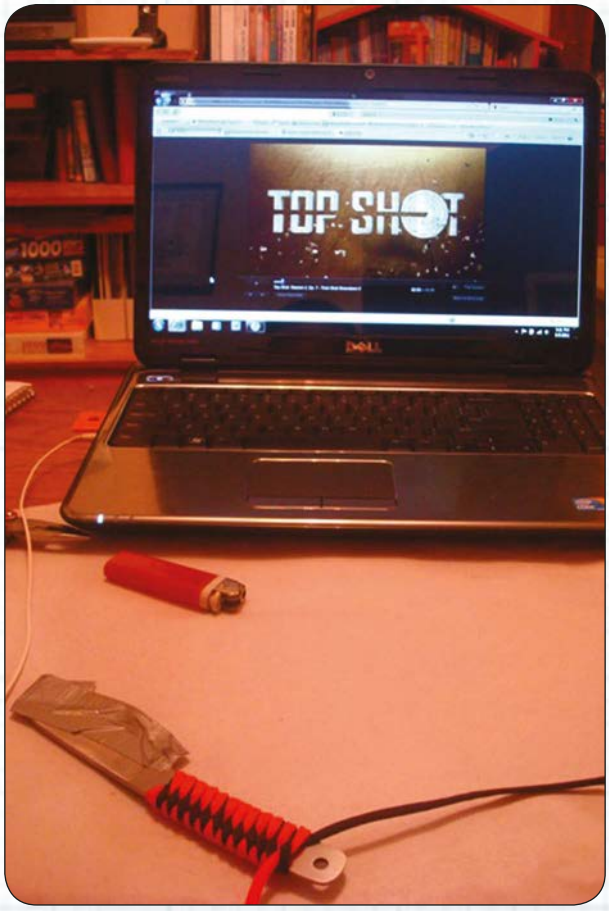
Pull the cords around to the same side that the cord ends are on. Make sure the black goes under the orange, then pull it over the orange.

Next, you flip the knife over and do that knot on that side. Make sure you pull it tight. Then you just keep flipping and repeating.



Step 5: Entertainment

I like to watch a good TV show or something while doing wrapping. Just make sure you're still paying attention to what you're doing.



Step 6: Ending

When you get to the end hole, one cord will be right at the hole, one will be farther away. In this case black was closest. Pull the closest cord through the hole right there, and pull the other one around and then through the hole. Tie a knot to end it, and do what you will with the rest. Typically I would end it by putting on a cool-looking bead and knotting it again. But, I don't have anything good on hand, so I just trimmed them at about 1" long and left them there.

Step 7: Resin Coating

Take the now wrapped knife and tape off most of the blade and any areas you don't want resin on. You can typically pop the resin right off of bare steel, but you might as well just tape it and save time.

Mix up a small amount of fiberglass resin. I used 1oz, but ½ oz would have easily sufficed, I just couldn't measure that small in my mixing cup.

Use a cheap (I repeat, cheap) paint brush and carefully brush resin all over the cord. Let it soak in and brush on more as needed. Then carefully clamp in vise to cure.

After a few minutes, remove knife and turn it over, so any resin gathering at the bottom end will not cure into drops or bumps on the side facing down.

Household Items

Chair

Hanging Chair

Book

Bookmark

Can Koozie

Wrapped Drumsticks

Guitar Strap

Paracord Holder

Chair

By IAMSatisfied

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-Chair-Simple-Comfortable-Adjustable-/)

This project is really simple, as it involves two intersecting wooden rectangles that have a seat and back made from woven paracord. I'm going to assume that anyone attempting this project has basic woodworking skills and is familiar with power tools, so this won't be a woodshop class. I will be presenting a flexible idea that can be modified, rather than absolute plans. Please feel free to experiment and play, and don't get locked into the idea that there's only one way to do it. The pictures are pretty much self-explanatory, with the last picture showing the two frames nested together.

Step 1: Things You Will Need

Materials:

- 150 feet minimum of paracord
- 48" heavy 1" nylon webbing
- 36" of shock-cord
- One ¾" thick oak (or other hardwood) board at least 6" wide x 60" long
- Thirty 2½" to 3" deck screws
- Twelve ⅝" pan head screws
- Four ¾" diameter screw-on rubber feet with 1" mounting screws
- stain and polyurethane

Tools:

- Miter saw
- Table saw
- Drill motor
- Pencil type soldering iron
- Two 24" bar clamps
- Wood glue
- ⅛" and ¼" drill bits
- Countersinking bit
- #2 Phillips screwdriver
- 100-grit sandpaper
- 2" paint brush
- Rags

Nice but not necessary:

- Table mounted router with ⅜" round nose bit and ¼" and ½" round over bits
- Drill press
- Floor standing belt sander/disc sander

Step 2: Making the Frames

First, cut the frame components using a table saw and miter saw. The first picture shows how I laid out my chair. Change the dimensions as suits you.

Important note: You'll want to use a hardwood that is on the harder end of the spectrum like oak, walnut, hickory, etc. Birch, poplar, ash, and so on would tend to be too soft to hold up.

I ripped two strips on the table saw about 1.5", from which I then cut two 41" boards, and two 16 ⅞" boards. From the remaining scrap I cut two 2 ⅞" blocks with a 30 degree miter on one end of each, which will get glued to one of the 16 ⅞" front seat support boards (see pictures 2 and 3 below). Then I ripped a 1 ¼" strip from the remaining board on the table saw. From that I cut two 27" pieces on the miter saw. Then I ripped the remaining board to 2" wide and cut on the miter saw two pieces 13 5/16" and a third that was 15 ⅜". Disregard the short pieces in the picture marked "SSB."

Okay, all of your boards are now cut. Next, you're going to glue together your front seat support. Take one 16 ⅞" seat support and the two mitered blocks and glue and clamp them together to resemble the front seat support shown in pictures 2 and 3 below. This will create a board that is 3" wide at the ends and 1 ½" wide in the middle, and allows room for the seat to sag when you sit in the chair.

Optional: I used the ⅜" round nose bit to route a trough in the outside edges of the long boards in which the paracord can reside and be protected from abrasion, and I think it has a more appealing, "finished" appearance, but this is not required.

Also optional: You can round the ends of your long boards on the disc sander for a more finished look.

Next, route the long edges of all of your boards with the ¼" round over bit. If you want to duplicate the front edge detail that I used on my seat frame, you'll need to reserve some of the routing until after the frame is assembled.

Mark and drill your ¼" holes for your paracord to go through. I spaced the holes on my back at 2 ⅜" vertically and 2 ½" horizontally. For the seat I put the holes closer, as they will be bearing more weight—1 ⅝" in each direction.

Optional: I used a drill press and drilled the holes at a 45 degree angle so that the paracord would ride as close to flush with the top surface of the frames as possible. The other end of the holes (on the outside edge of the frames) exited in the middle of the routed troughs. Only do this if you are comfortable with it—it's not required.

At this point your front seat support should be set up nicely. Remove the clamps and use the table saw to put a bevel of 10 degrees on the tops of the blocks to duplicate what is depicted in picture 6 below. Put that same 10 degree bevel on the bottom of the rear 16 ⅞" seat support as well, just like in picture 6 below.

With the boards cut, the front seat support glued up and beveled, and the edges routed, you're ready to start assembling the frames. The two 41", the 15 ⅜", and the two 16 ⅞" boards make up the back of the chair, while the two 27" and the two 13 5/16" boards make up the seat frame.

You will want to mark each end of the long boards where your screws will go to fasten the frames together, then drill (⅛" bit) and countersink the holes. Once that's done, lay the frame components on a flat surface and use the 24" clamps to hold them in position while you pre-drill the screw holes. Go ahead and assemble the frames dry for now. Once you have them all together you will glue one corner at a time, remove the screws, gently spread the joint just enough to smear some glue inside, then reinstall the screws. You can skip this technique with the seat supports—just remove one support at a time, glue, and rescrew. It's quicker and easier to glue the frames together after you've dry-fitted everything together.

A little note on my seat support placement: The bottom of the front seat support attaches 1 ⅝" from

the bottom of the vertical sidebar, and the bottom of the rear seat support attaches 6 1⁄16" from the bottom of the vertical side support. These are not rigid laws, but guidelines that worked for me.

Once your frames are glued you can go ahead and sand, stain, and poly them, then you're ready for the next step (after they've dried, of course).

Step 3: Weaving the Back and Seat

This is the fun part, because you're almost done!

First I screwed (after pre-drilling the oak!) the 1" webbing just above the rear seat support and about 6" from the back end of the seat frame. Then I took a pencil soldering iron and melted holes into the webbing on the seat frame to match the hole spacing on the opposite end of the frame; this is only necessary on the seat frame. Make sure to wrap the webbing as shown to increase friction strength, and don't forget to melt the ends of the webbing well to keep it from fraying. Make sure your screws are tight. Make sure your webbing is tight, as on the seat frame this is what you'll fasten your diagonals to. The webbing on the chair back functions to keep one's tailbone from contacting the rear seat support by giving a "soft bar" over which the paracord travels before going through holes in the rear seat support. Picture 3 below is a closer detail of these webs, the seat frame being the one on the right.

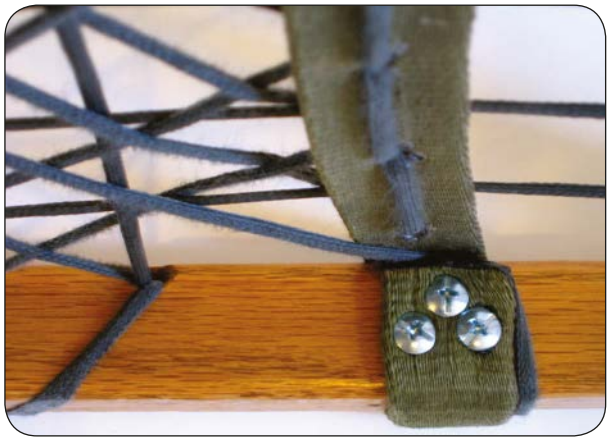
I started out weaving the vertical runs, then the horizontals with one piece of paracord, then the diagonals with another. Start by calculating how much paracord you're going to need for your seat back. You can separate the horizontals and verticals from the diagonals. The shorter your pieces the less threading you'll have to do. On my seat back it took approximately 35 feet of cord to do the horizontals plus the verticals, and another 30 feet to do the diagonals.

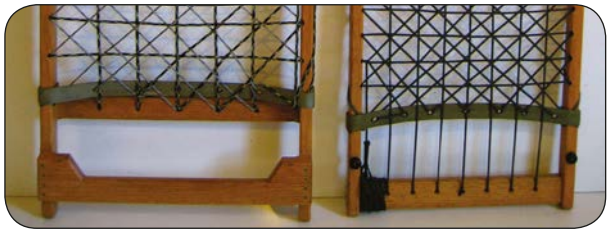
I started by threading one end of the paracord through a hole closest to the corner, tying a couple knots to prevent it from pulling though, then weaving in a zig-zagging pattern through the vertical holes and then the horizontal holes. When

you begin weaving perpendicular courses, weave in and out of the existing cords in an alternating pattern, just like on a tennis racket. When you come to the diagonals, get creative, but be consistent in your pattern.

Important note: As you weave, make sure to tension the cord as tightly as is practical as you go along. Don't start another direction until you are satisfied that you've gotten it as tight as you want it.

It's not too important how you transition from one direction to another, nor is it critical how you tie things off—use your creativity, sense of aesthetics, and common sense.





Step 4: Finishing Touches

Almost done! Now you can drill four ⅛" holes (two in each vertical sidebar) to secure the shock-cord. The picture below shows the purpose of the elastic shock-cord, which is to hold the seat frame up against the back of the chair when traveling or stowing. I drilled my holes at 10" and 27" from the top of the sidebars, laced the shock-cord through, and tied simple figure eight knots to hole them in place. The seat frame now slides neatly into place.

Now it's time to place the screw-on rubber feet. These act as limit stops, and you'll want to place them in such a location as to give you something to indicate the maximum limits of adjustment. Simply set your chair up and slide the seat frame forward and aft to determine the best utility range for your comfort. On my chair I placed two rubber feet on top of the seat-frame rails centered at 3 ¾" from the rear end of the frame, and on the bottom at 12 ½" from the rear of the frame. Pictures 1 and 2 below should clarify this point.

And finally, you can add a pillow of your choice. I simply took an appropriately sized piece of foam rubber and wrapped it in cloth. I used a single piece of paracord to tie it into place, creating a "valley" for my head to rest in.

Hanging Chair

By Twotim221

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-Laced-Pallet-Hanging-Chair/)

I know that there are a lot of different kinds of chair Instructables already, but I have never seen a chair like this before. It is so easy to make, and it is comfortable because it conforms to your body.

Step 1: Tools and Materials

Tools:

- Drill
- Saw
- Lighter
- Sawzall (optional)

Materials:

- Paracord
- Pallet (I was able to get by with just one but it all depends on how much usable wood you can get off of each pallet)

I used pallet wood because it is hardwood and free, but, as with all treated wood, you need to use precaution when handling this wood. Make sure you are wearing a mask when cutting, and gloves at all times. When you are finished with all the cuts and have drilled all your holes, it is important that you seal the wood.

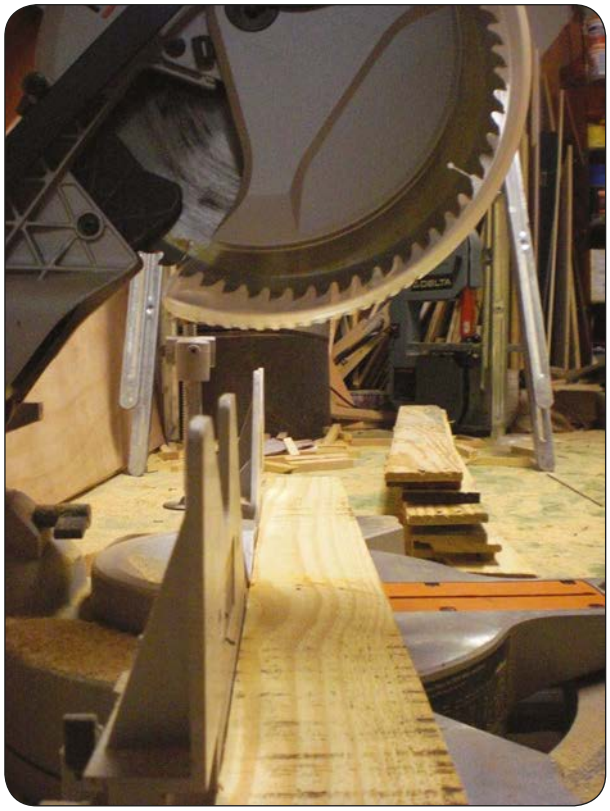
I used paracord because it is small yet strong and does not stretch as much as other ropes. Paracord is also easier to work with because it doesn't unravel or fray like other types of rope, and because the ends can be melted to make lacing with it easy.

Step 2: Take Pallet Apart

There are many different ways to take apart pallets in order to use the wood for something else. I have found that prying them apart causes a lot of damage to the wood and is a lot more work than is necessary. So, my preferred method is to cut the pieces apart using a sawzall. All you have to do is cut through the nails that are holding it together and you are good to go (with minimal damage to the wood). If you want you can pop the remaining parts of the nails out of the wood. Just take the sawzall and cut right between the piece you would like to save (the top piece) and the thick frame. Try to cut just the nails and not too much of the wood. Once you get the hang of it, it will go really fast.

Step 3: Cutting the Wood to Size

Now here is where you need to decide how wide you would like your chair to be. I guess you should base the size on the behind that will be sitting in it. With the pallet that I had I was able to just cut the boards right down the middle (20"). The amount of board is also up to you. I ended up using 16 boards for my chair. Warning: Make sure you look out for leftover bits of nails in the wood as you are cutting.

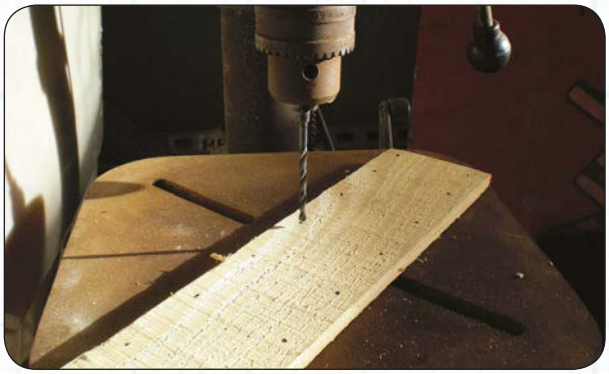


Step 4: Marking Wood for Lace Holes

Now what you want to do is take one of the boards and mark where you want to put the laces. I put my laces ½" in from the edge of the board and put them 2" apart. Depending on how you would like yours to look you can make the laces farther apart or closer together, as long as they are in far enough from the edge so that the board does not break once it has weight on it. Keep in mind also that if the laces are spaced farther apart, the boards will tend to pull away from each other more, making a gap where things might get pinched (fingers, "cheeks", etc.).

Step 5: Drill the Holes

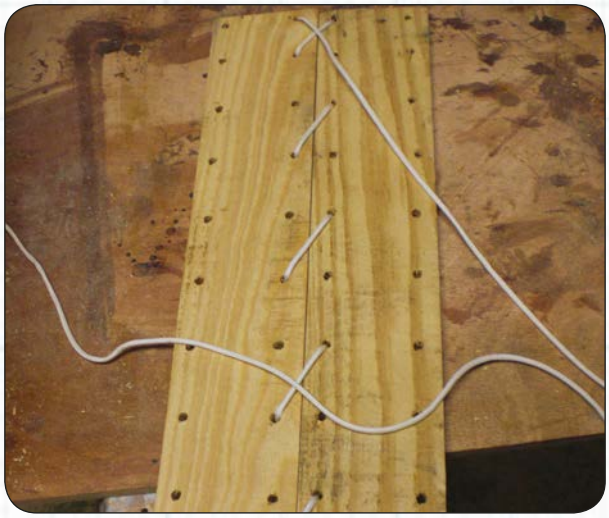
Now that you have your holes marked you can start drilling. I used a drill press, but a regular drill will work just fine. I started by drilling all the holes in my first board, and then I used that board as a jig to do the rest. You will want a drill bit that is a little bigger than your paracord so that the cord fits easily through the holes.



Step 6: Start Lacing

Now comes the fun part. Start by placing two of your boards next to one another. Now lace the paracord through them just as you would a pair of shoes. Once you reach the end cut the paracord, making sure you leave enough slack to tie a strong knot at the end. Now you can pull the paracord out and use it to measure the rest of the pieces you will need. When you cut the rest make sure you leave a little room for error. It's better to have too much than to have too little and have to start over. Once you have cut your paracord to size it is a good idea to melt the ends so that it is easy to get the cord through the holes.

Now you can start lacing boards together. Things to watch for as you're lacing: 1) Make sure you are paying attention to which side of the board is up and what side is down so that you end up with all the good-looking sides facing up; 2) It looks best to have all the knots on the bottom; and 3) Once you have finished a lace, go back and pull each "X" to get the slack out.



Step 7: Hang and Enjoy

Now all you have to do is hang the chair from whatever structure you have available. I used some 2x4s between the trees in my back yard (not the prettiest, but it works). Just drill a couple of holes in each of the four corners you would like to hang the chair from and thread the paracord through them. I put the front cords back one board from the end so that it would be more comfortable on the back of my legs. For a somewhat laid back chair attach the front and back cords farther apart from each other with the back cords low; for more of an upright chair, like mine, put them closer together with the back cords high. The whole thing is completely adjustable to your liking, so tweak it till it's comfortable for you.

Note: I used two strands of paracord per corner, which is strong enough to hold me, but you might want to braid more together for added strength.

Getting into the chair can be a little tricky (kind of like getting into a hammock), but once you do, relax and enjoy. I think I would stain the boards next time, as this would look nicer and make the paracord stand out more.

Book

By ChrysN

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Craft-Foam-and-Paracord-bound-book/)

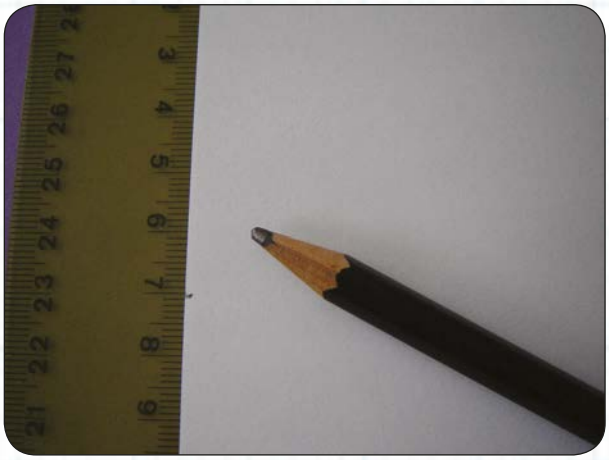
I was looking for a simple way to make a book or journal from some scrap paper that I had. I decided to make the cover from craft foam and use paracord to bind it.

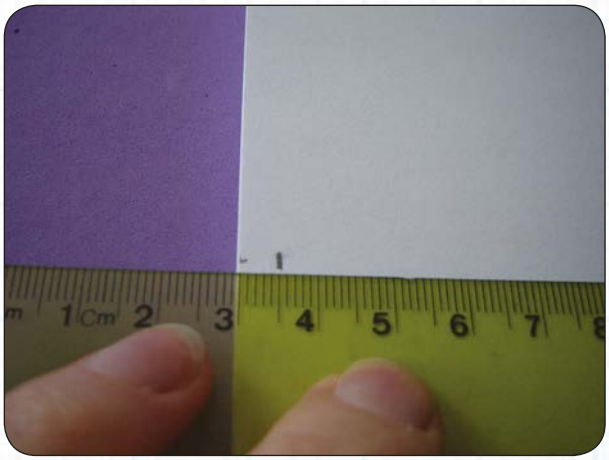
Step 1: Materials and Tools

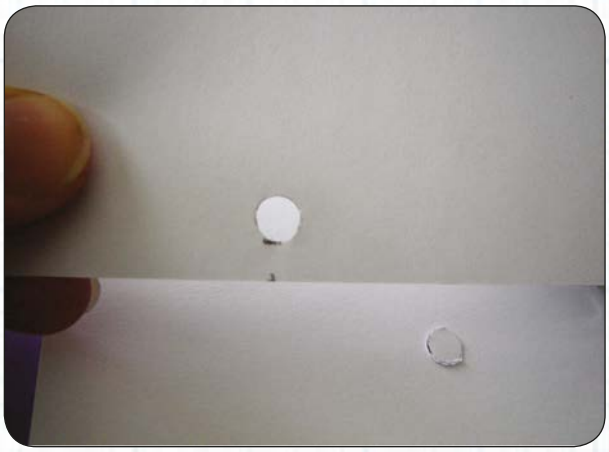
- Craft foam (different colors if you want to embellish the book cover; if you want a harder cover use cardboard instead)
- Paracord
- Paper
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- Glue
- Clip
- Lighter

Step 2: Prepare Paper

Line up all the edges of the paper and hold together with a clip. You will need to make two holes in the stack of paper approximately 0.5cm in from the edge of the paper. To do this, simply measure the height and mark a spot ⅓ and ⅔ down from the top for the holes to go. If you have a thick stack of paper, it may be easier to use a drill to make the holes.



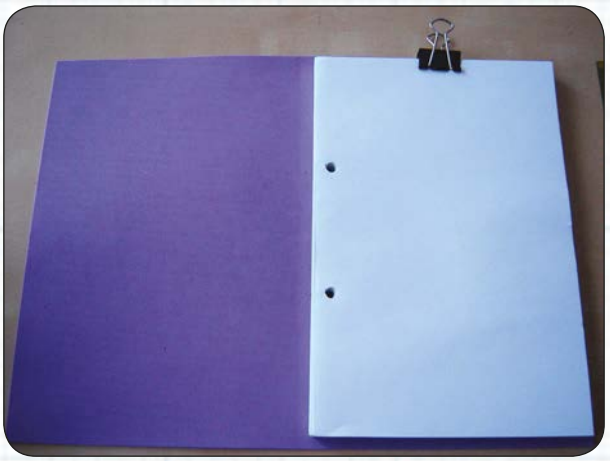


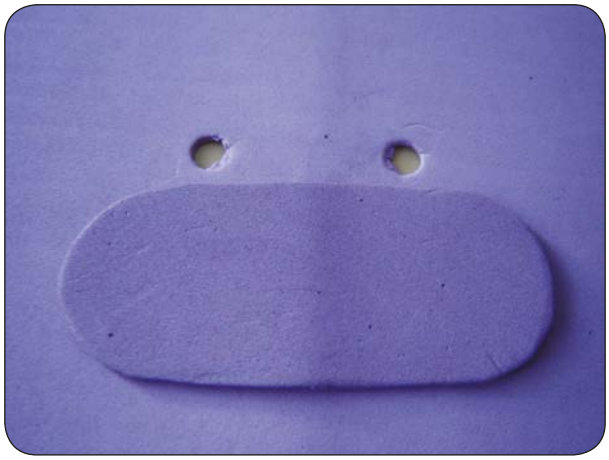


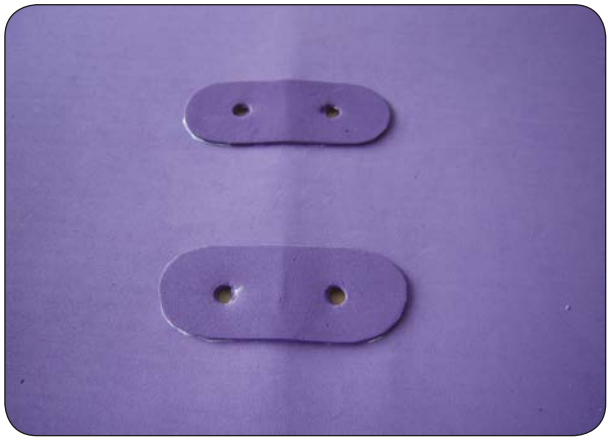
Step 3: Prepare Cover

Cut the craft foam so that it can fold over the stack of paper, plus a margin of about 0.5cm around the edges. Placing the paper on the foam, mark where the holes should go. Make the holes using the hole punch. If you want to add embellishments to

the book cover, cut and glue them on. (I added two pieces of a darker color foam to reinforce the holes, plus I thought it would look nice.)

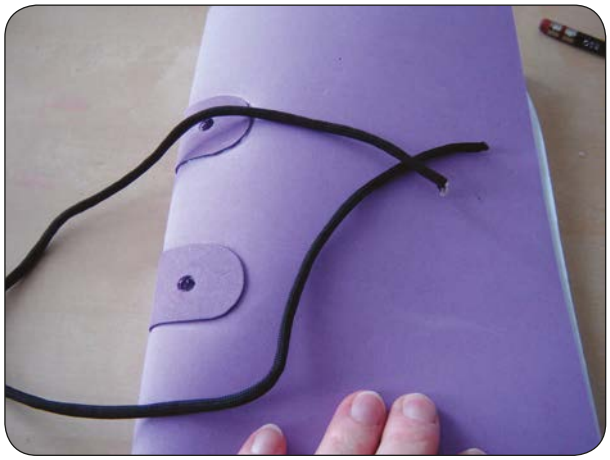






Step 4: Paracord Binding

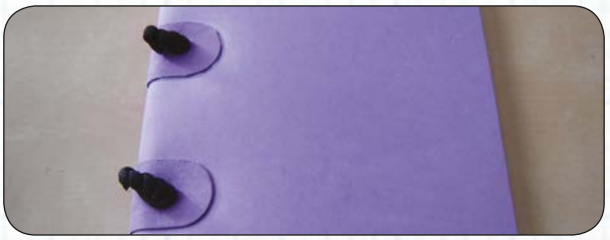
Cut about a foot of paracord. Feed it through both of the holes starting from the back cover, through the paper, and then through the front cover. The strands emerging from each hole in the front should be the same length.



Step 5: Knotting the Paracord

Take one cord and tie an overhand knot. Wrap the loose end of the cord three more times through the loop of the knot. Tighten the knot. Take the other cord and pull it tight so that the first knot is flush against the book cover. Repeat the same knot as above and tighten the knot. Make sure that the finished knots are flush against the book cover. Cut off the excess cord at the end of the knot and melt the end to prevent fraying.

Note: You could also try other knots here, like a button knot or monkey's fist knot.



Step 6: Bookmark: Preparing the Paracord

Take a piece of paracord approximately 9 feet long and pull out the threads inside the cord so that it is hollow, which will make the bookmark less thick.

Step 7: Bookmark: Lucky Knot

The bookmark is made from a decorative Chinese knot called the "Good Luck" knot and a series of half-hitch knots. Start with the Good Luck knot by folding the cord in half, which makes the top loop of the diagram below, then make two more loops, one on each side of the center loop. Fold each loop over counterclockwise; notice in the diagram below whether it should weave over or under. Pull the loops tight and fold over clockwise, again noting from the diagram below at which point it should weave over or under. Pull the loops tight, forming the knot.

Step 8: Bookmark: Half Hitch

I used the half hitch for the rest of the length of the bookmark. See diagram below to make the half-hitch knot. Repeat until the bookmark is the desired length.

Step 9: Bookmark: Attaching to Book

When the bookmark is long enough tie it to the top binding cord on the inside back cover.

Bookmark

By repeet13

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-Double-Monkey-Fist-Bookmark/)

This snazzy bookmark will have all of your friends saying "Cool!" It's a bit of a challenge, but it isn't too difficult and has a definite cool factor.

Step 1: Supplies

- Paracord. About 60 inches will do, figure about 23 inches for one actual monkey fist (x2 for the bookmark) and add some length in the middle for your book. I did a quick informal measure test on a good-sized book and left some extra on each end, so it's fairly up to you how long this actually is.
- Two marbles. Really any type of round object of a similar size would work—rocks, balled up paper, etc.
- Lighter, matches, or other flame source (don't hurt yourself)
- Sharp object for cutting the cord to length (again, don't hurt yourself). I used a folding utility knife that takes razor blades.

Step 2: Tie the First Monkey's Fist

Of the two knots, this one will be much easier to tie. Just follow these simple instructions, and you'll be playing with the knot in no time (don't hurt yourself, this can be used as a weapon). As a general note, the number of loops in each step depends on the size of your core; with my marble, three loops wound around it without being too small or too big. Choose based on your core. Also, this knot turning out well depends entirely on the tightening process, so when doing your loops, have them loose and plan on working excess out of the knot three times or more.

1. As always, fuse the ends of the cord with the lighter.
2. While holding one end of the cord, loop around your first and second finger (or if you're really cool, your monkey's fist–making stand) three times. Make sure you actually have three strands on both the front and back of your hand, because if you don't, it might look funny.
3. After completing the three loops, you will make three more loops! This time, they will be perpendicular to your previous loops, and going around the outside, as shown. Pay attention to the transition from vertical to horizontal, as it may make the knot look funny when you tighten and finish. I would be more specific, but it is really hard to tie this and take pictures at the same time. So try it! If it doesn't end up looking good, redo it. In the course of this one Instructable I tied the monkey's fist at least four times to get it right.
4. Now transition (also watch your transition here) to vertical loops again, but this time it will be in the plane of your hand. This means through your fingers. Do one or two loops and go to the next step.
5. Insert your core material (marble) and finish the three loops in this direction.
6. Congrats, you have tied the monkey's fist! Now, just to tighten it. This step is crucial to the aesthetics of the knot. The goal is to have only the one cord coming from the knot (the long, excess part), and having the other beneath the wraps somewhere. To accomplish this, on your first round of tightening leave the end sticking out of the perpendicular wraps so you know where it is later. This round, make everything tighter but still very loose, as this is where you set up the shape of the knot. Try to make every cord have enough space to not be squished by its neighbors or other wraps. This should turn out rather cube shaped. Go to round two, where you tighten it snug up against your core material, again starting at the short end and working the excess to the long end. The third time, you can go ahead and pull the short end so it just disappears under the first wrap, and continue from there with the final tightening.

Step 3: Tie the Second Monkey's Fist

Yeah, no brainer, right? Tie the second one.

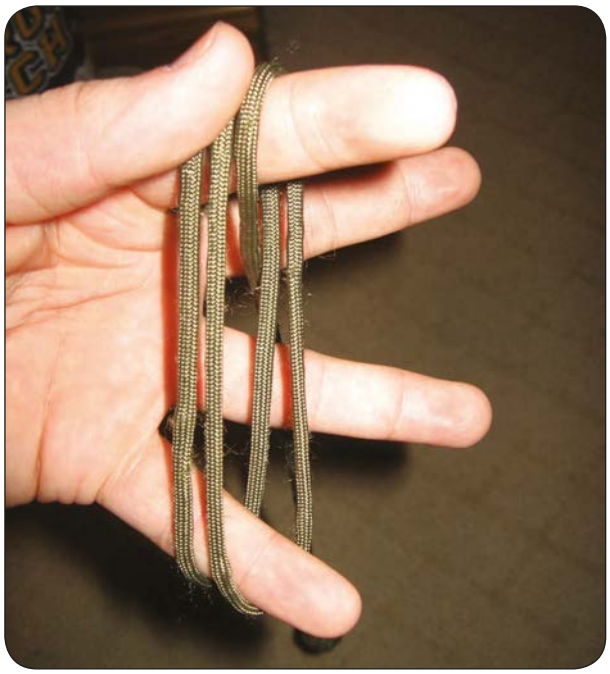
This knot will be a little harder than the first one, depending on how much extra space you left. I found it was just barely doable with as much as I left, so if you left less—good luck.

Basically, the instructions are exactly the same, except now you have to do it with a large ball on the end of the string. I (as you can see) looped the first set only twice around my forefinger and pinky to leave enough space to pass the monkey's fist through for the last set. But when I got there, I didn't have enough length to make it through three times, so I had to move the slack from the first loops all the way to the end to have enough to make the last loops. You will have this issue too; it can't be helped easily.

After you finagle the monkey's fist to complete the last three loops, you will need to go back to the first set and use the short end to go around again to complete the set of three. Then, it's just a simple matter of tightening the knot! If you find the middle

section too long, there are several in-line cord-shortening knots such as the sheepshank you can employ to bring the length to a manageable level.

Enjoy your new bookmark!



Can Koozie

By craftdan

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Multi-Color-Paracord-Can-Koozie/)

I'll show you the steps to turn paracord into a snappy-looking can koozie sporting your two favorite colors. In the following pages, I'll show you what you need, how to stitch from start to finish, and suggest some ideas for creating your own variation on the theme.

Step 1: Supplies

For this project you'll need:

- Two strands of paracord (23 ft–25 ft each; you'll need at least 45 ft total to finish a typical can. When selecting your length keep in mind that it's better to have more than less. You can always trim off 2 ft of cord, but it's hard to add on an extra 2 ft. For this Instructable, Cord A will be played by popular and soothing "Blue," and Cord B will be played by the bright and energetic "Orange."
- Cord-lock or lanyard bead (I've selected a glow-in-the-dark key fob I bought recently)

Required tools:

- A can to use as a form (don't plan to drink it anytime soon; your last soda is okay, but for goodness' sake, don't use your last beer)
- Sharp scissors
- Source of flame (hand torch, lighter, gas stove, candle, or matches if you're very quick; used for melting the paracord ends)
- Measuring tool (a yardstick is ideal, but a ruler will do)

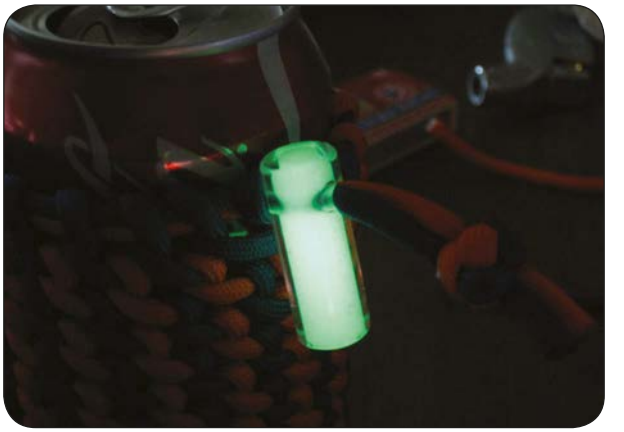
Optional tools that could make your life easier:

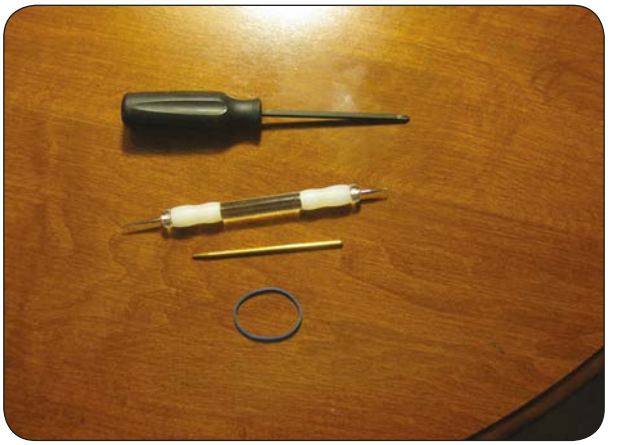
- Blunt pointy tool (a substitute for a Fid or Marlinspike, which is used for "dressing" knots. A knitting needle, embossing tool, or small Phillips screw driver will do. It just needs to be thin, strong, and able to poke into the knots to pull tight strands loose and loose strands tight—moving the slack around the weave. You can use your fingernails as a substitute, but it's really hard on them.)

Tool for stitching (not pictured) such as:

- Bent needle-nosed pliers or hemostat (useful for pulling the cord through the stitch. See Step 5 for an example of use.)
- Two jumbo permalock needles (allows you to push the cord through the stitch)
- Small rubber band (used early on for marking the cord)

Finally, knotting geeks tend to use some basic terminology. If you're unfamiliar with any terms I use, check out the Wikipedia article on knots.





Step 2: Prep

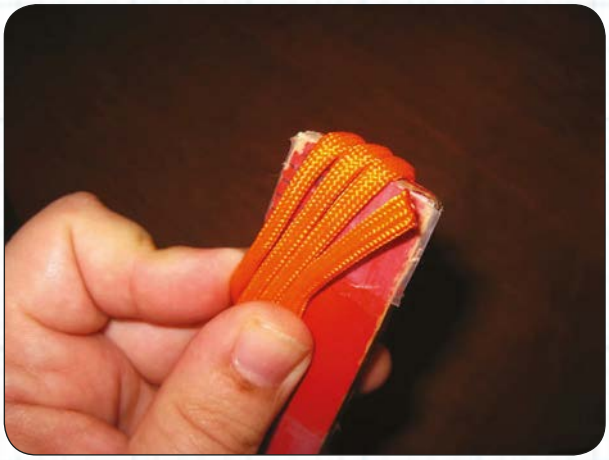
Measure and cut. If you haven't done it beforehand, measure out your selected length and cut to size. As mentioned before, it's better to err on the side of too long than not long enough.

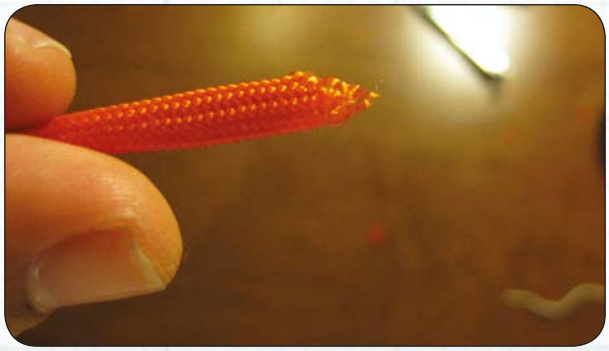
Dressing the ends for work. Once your cord is cut, dress the ends to keep them from fraying badly. There are three ways you might want to dress these: simply melting the end, gutting and sealing the end, or trimming and melting the end for a permalock needle (not pictured).

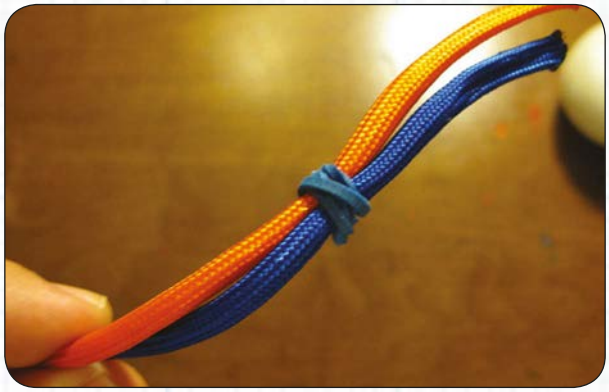
Before I discuss these, I just want to emphasize: Do not touch the melted end! Not only will it look bad, but also liquid nylon can cause very nasty burns. It's tempting, but just don't do it!

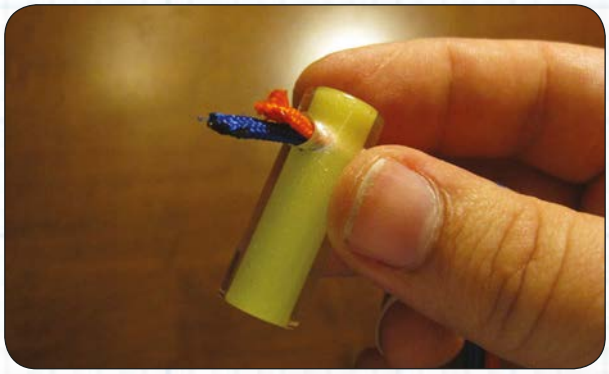
- Simple melting. It's just that—a controlled melt of the cord's end. Light your torch/candle/burner and slowly move the end near the side of the flame. As it gets close enough you'll see the end start to melt. Hold it there and let the nylon slowly melt. If you see it darken, it's getting too hot, so back away a little. Once it's melted to your satisfaction, either let it air cool to form a nice rounded end, or press it against a flat piece of metal (like the side of your lighter or a piece of silverware) to form a flat look.
- Gutting and sealing the end—useful for threading ends through tight openings. Simply pull out 2" to 3" of the core cord and snip. The remainder will shrink back into the sleeve. Trim up the end to a point and seal the end using your flame source.
- Preparing for a permalock needle—permalock needle is a brass shaft about the same size as the cord with a hollow threaded opening in the back. A jumbo-sized permalock needle is just big enough to work with paracord. To prepare, cut the cord at a steep angle (45–60 degrees). Gently melt the cord, trying to keep the angled point on the top. Fit into the needle's end and twist; trim if necessary.

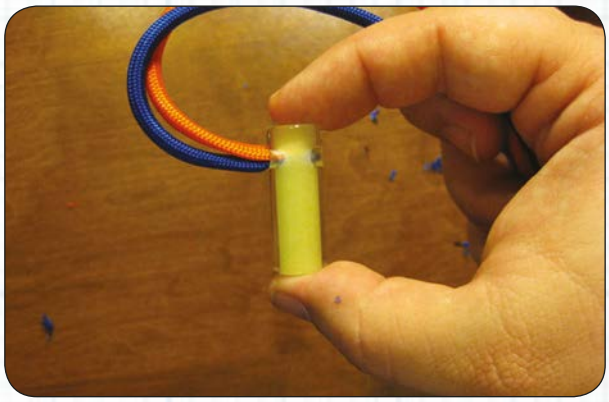
Put on the rubber band and bead. If you've chosen to sacrifice a rubber band, now is the time to use it. Wrap it loosely around the cord and slide it about 1½ feet down. Put on your cord lock or lanyard bead. Slide it down far enough that you have the cord you need for the finishing knot. I tied a knife lanyard knot, so I needed about a foot. If you want to be frugal about the cord, you can tie this knot now and move the excess over to the koozie side. With the lanyard bead and rubber band in place, we're ready to mark, tie, and tighten our first knot!

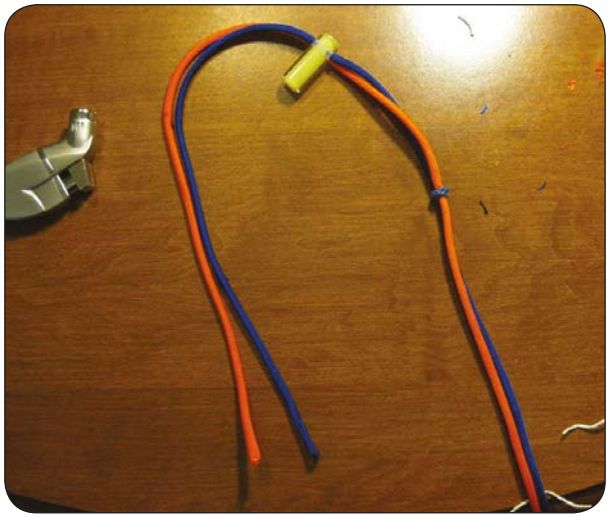












Step 3: The First Knot

The first knot is an easy one, a simple fixed loop knot. You can pick and choose your own, but I'm going to show the "overhand loop," since it's small and oh-so-easy to do. Before we tie it in, we'll need to find where.

Mark the knot. Simply wrap the cord once around the can starting from the lanyard bead toward the working end (the "working end" is the long end from here on, with the "standing end" being "fixed" to the lanyard bead).

Tie the overhand loop knot. Remove the can and grab the rubber band from the standing end side (the side attached to the lanyard bead). Take about 6" of color A cord and make a 3" bight—that's where the cord loops back on itself without crossing.

1. Grab the rubber band, Cord B and Cord A + bight between your thumb and the first knuckle in your forefinger.
2. Wrap the bight loosely around your index finger.
3. Once it is all the way around the finger move your thumb up to hold the bight in a loop.
4. Slide your index finger out of the way and tuck the end of the bight in the loop.
5. Pull the loop all the way through, and you've tied your first knot!

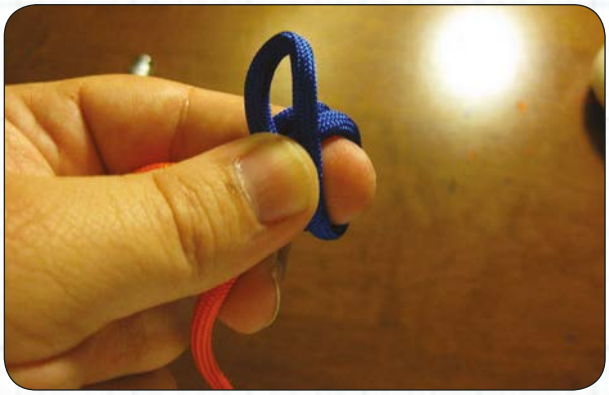
Tuck the lanyard bead and the extra cord through the loop; this should form a nice, almost can-sized loop.

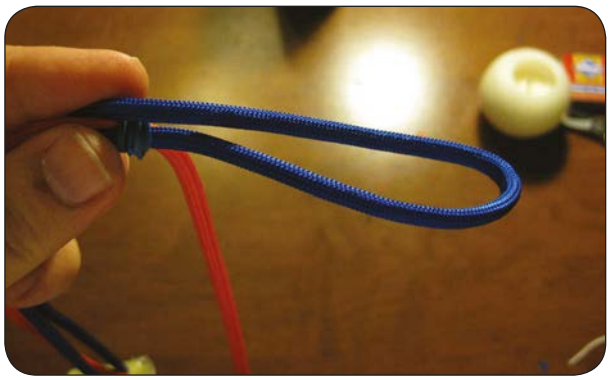
Adjustments. The first knot is too big, however, so we need to tighten it down to where the two strands. Pick one of the cords at the bottom of the knot. Using your fingernails or blunt pointy tool, pull on it. If the

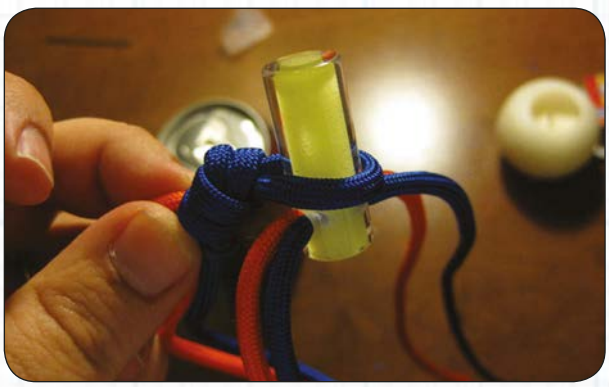
loop above tightens in response, you're pulling on the right cord.

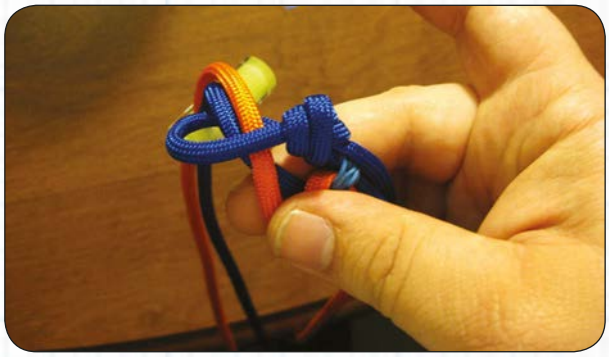
Pull on it until the loop is just big enough for both cords to easily slide through. Push the excess slack around the curve of the knot and pull it tight by holding onto the cord with the bottom half of your hand and pushing on the knot with your thumb and forefinger. If it doesn't move with modest force, make sure you're pulling on the right cord (try the other one). Wrap it around the can with Cord A on top and pull the lanyard fob tight. If you haven't already, cut off the rubber band—we're done with him.

Now we're ready to stitch our first row!









Step 4: The First Row

Tying the second knot is easier than the first—it's a simple half hitch.

1. We'll start with Cord B. Slip your blunt, pointy tool between Cord A and the can just opposite the lanyard bead.
2. Slip Cord A's end UNDER Cord B, going from the bottom to the top.
3. Looping back toward the standing end, go back OVER Cord B.
4. Finally loop UNDER the standing part. You've tied a half hitch. All that's left is to pull the slack out.
5. Pull all 20+ feet of slack through the knot and out of the standing end under then over Cord B, then under Cord A.
6. Pull it tight and check that it's still centered. Two down, many more to go.

That's Knot #2, let's move on to #3:

1. Bring the cord under.
2. Over
3. Under
4. Pull tight—and that's three!
5. Make sure you keep a little slack between the knots. We'll tie the next row of half hitches into this slack then pull the slack out when we no longer need it.

Tie a total of nine half hitches in Cord B, spaced evenly between the midpoint and the first knot. Why nine? We need a total of 18 around the can. Twenty is too many—the weave won't fit tightly around the can. That leaves nine per cord. Eight is acceptable, but the weave will be a little looser—it's up to you.

Dressing the knots. Before we move on to Cord A, we need to dress the knots—the process of evening out the slack in these knots.

1. First, insert your blunt pointy tool (or grab it with your fingernails) into the middle of the knot.
2. Gently pull up to draw the slack out from the standing part between the knots until it's at the desired tension.
3. Insert the tool into the standing part and pull down to tighten the hitch. Keep working the slack down the line. Once you reach the end, it's time to repeat with Cord A.
4. For Cord A, start with a gap that's twice as wide. This will allow us to constrict the top a little.

   Make a total of eight half hitches from Cord A.

   Wait . . . What? Eight? What happened to nine? Where did the missing stitch go? We need to skip one so we can constrict the top. If you chose to tie eight hitches of Cord B, tie only seven of A. Make sure the hitches are spaced evenly around the can when you're done

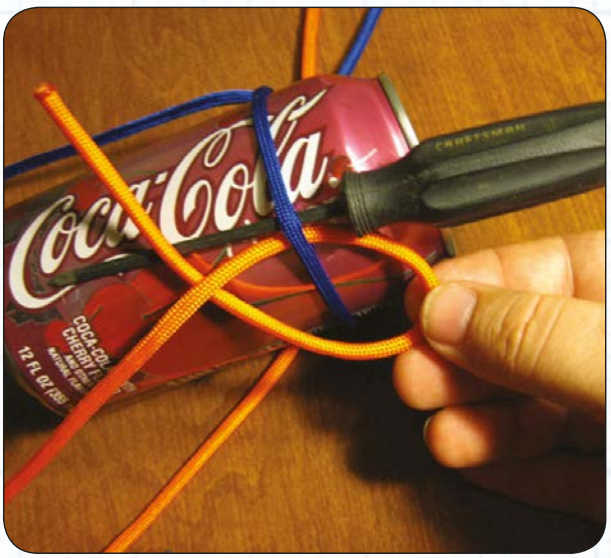
Start the next row and off we go . . .

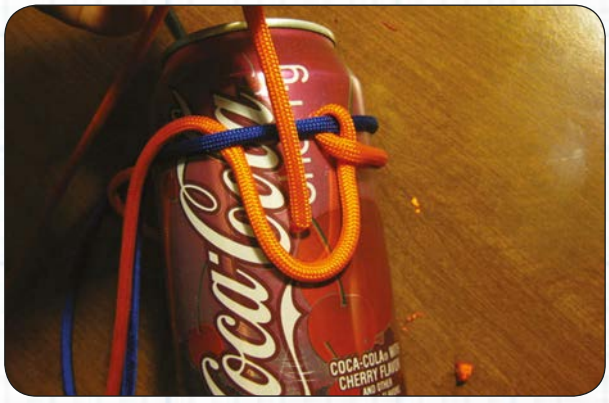
1. To start the next row, switch back to Cord B. Tie two hitches in the large loop.
2. From now until we start the bottom, tie one hitch into each gap. Keep tying hitches until you reach the loose end of Cord A. Dress the hitches in Cord B (we don't need the slack in the loops anymore), and start tying hitches on Cord A until you get back to B again.

   Wash.

   Rinse.

   Repeat.





Step 5: Dress for Success

As you tie, here are a few useful observations.

Travel: First, this takes a long time. It's worth it, but it takes a while. What do you do when you need a break? Wrap it up and go! Just wrap the excess around the can and when you get a spare minute or two, unwrap and start again.

Dressing: As I mentioned before, you need to dress your knots. This is the process of making the knots consistent by moving the tension down the weave toward the working end. In picture 2, you'll see where I last left off dressing Cord A. You see even, tight hitches on the right, loose hitches on the left. Since we've tied on Cord B, we need to pull all the slack down toward the working end.

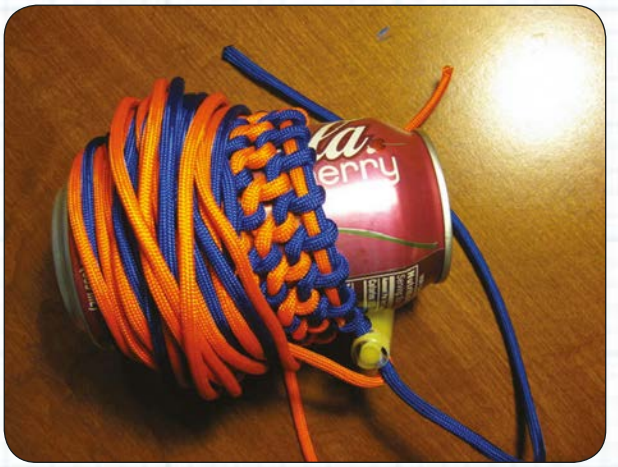
As before, start at the first loose knot and pull the slack around the knot. Keep pulling the slack around the knot, and on to the next. As you move it down, you'll pick up more slack from each knot.

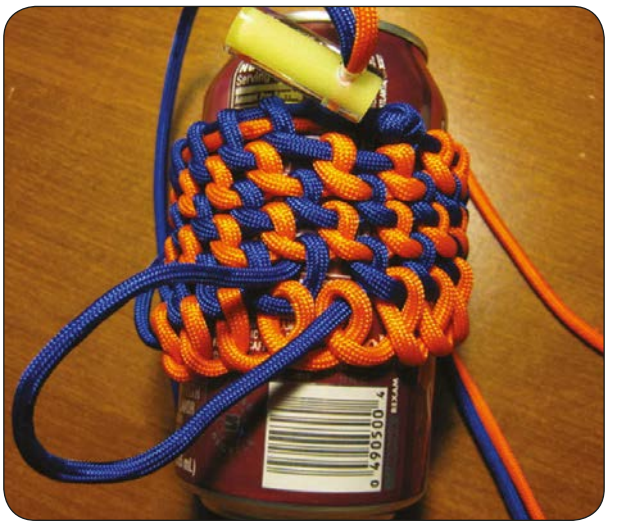
Twists and Tangles: It's not going to take long, and your working end is going to twist up. If you don't do something about it, before long it will tangle. When it twists up, pull the twists out by pulling on both sides of the twist

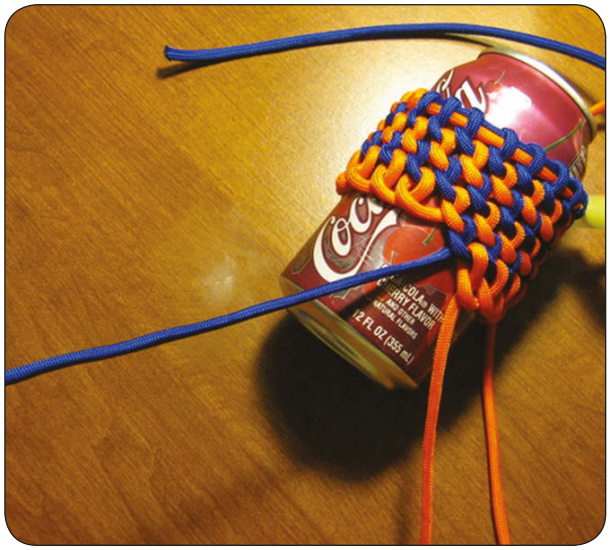
Separate the two cords and push the twist down the working end. To move the twist, grab the cord between your hands, gripping tightly on the standing end and holding loosely on the working end. Pull your hands apart, letting the cord slip through one hand. You should feel the cord slowly turn below your hand, pulling the twist toward the working end. Move your gripping hand up and repeat until you get to the end.

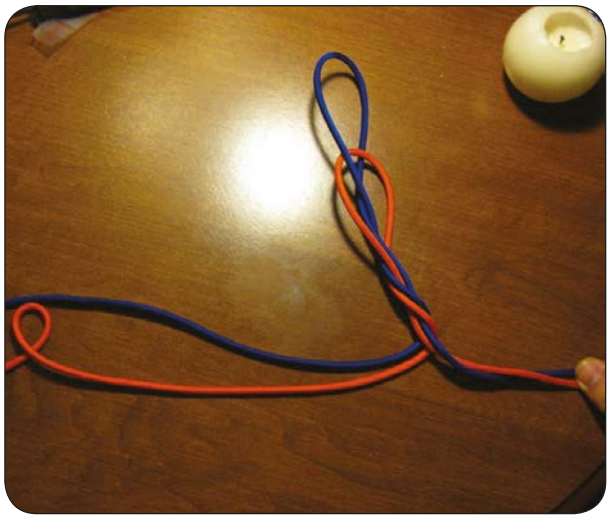
Using bent needle-nosed pliers or hemostats: Slip the pliers through the loop backwards and open it up. Place the cord end into the jaws and close. Pull back on the pliers. Don't let it go yet. Pull all the slack and then slip the pliers back under the standing end. Release the pliers, grab the end with your hand, and pull the slack again, and you've finished the knot.

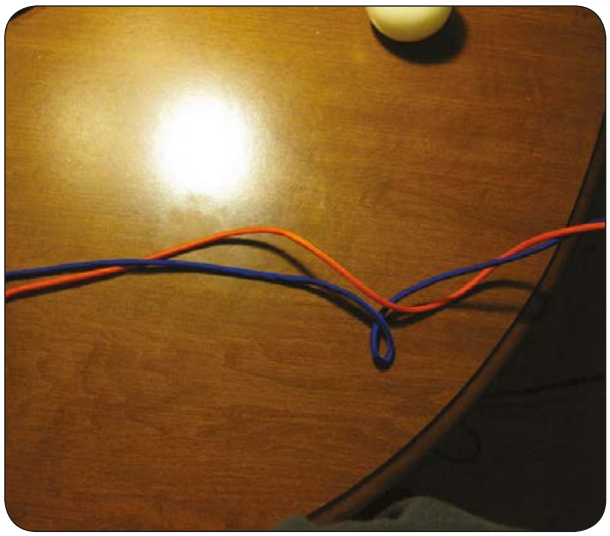
Get a good rhythm going, and you can stitch pretty fast with the pliers.

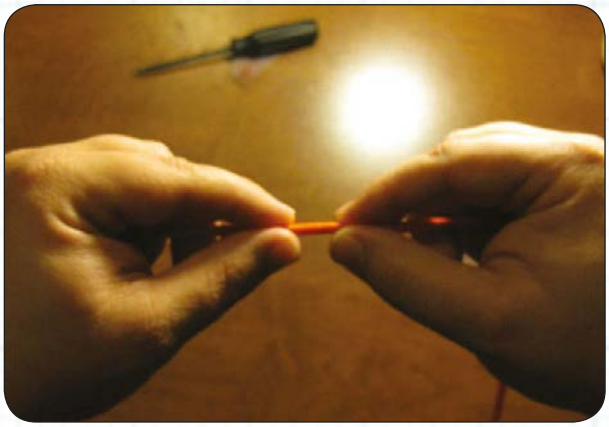


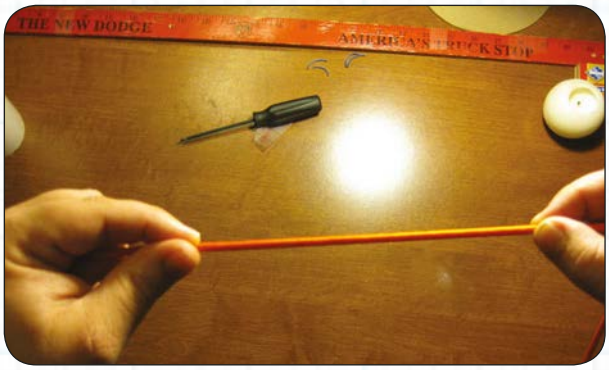












Step 6: Coming to an End

After you've been at this for a while, you're going to wonder, "When is enough enough?!"

Pick your end from your beginning: After you have about 10 rows, slide the weave up to the top of the can and decide how high you want it to be. Too high and the cord is too close to the lip of the can—makes it hard to take a sip. Slowly slide it down until you're happy with it. Once you like it, pull the first knot tight using the lanyard bead.

Nearing the end: Keep tying knots until you get within a row of the end. From here, stop tying knots when your cords are opposite each other. From here on, tie only one knot before switching to the other cord.

Turning the corner: When a full row folds over the end, you're ready to start dropping stitches. In the same way we added a stitch around the first knot to make the weave expand, we'll drop a stitch to close the weave. You drop stitches by skipping a loop with each stitch. *Only make one stitch per cord at a time*. It won't take many skipped stitches before the next place to tie can be confusing.

Eventually, tying one knot at a time, one cord will catch up with the other and you've got nowhere else to go.

Finally there! You've just tied the last stitch! Dress the stitches to finish forming the flat bottom.

Slip the can out of the koozie and put it away for a good long rest. Take a look at the bottom and look for the smallest gap next to where your working ends are poking out. Slip the working ends into this gap and pull the slack through.

Turn the koozie over. Tie a loose overhand knot with both cords. We need to push the loop down to the base, but the koozie is pretty deep, so we'll bring the bottom closer to the top.

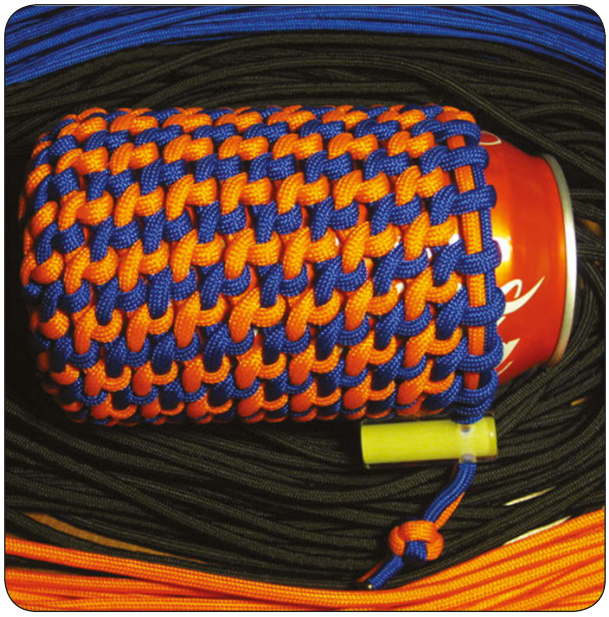
Turn the koozie back over and push the bottom inward toward the top. You don't have to push so far that the koozie inverts.

Flip it back over again and pull the overhand knot down and tight.

Trim and melt the end. This one doesn't need to be pretty—you'll never see it again.

Pop the bottom back out and you're finally finished!

cherry



Step 7: All Done—What's Next?

Well, that was fun, and your cold ones will take longer to become cool ones! But wait . . . what about all your friends? Do you DARE let them drink a not-so-cold one? What kind of friend would you be? And why not make something a little different?

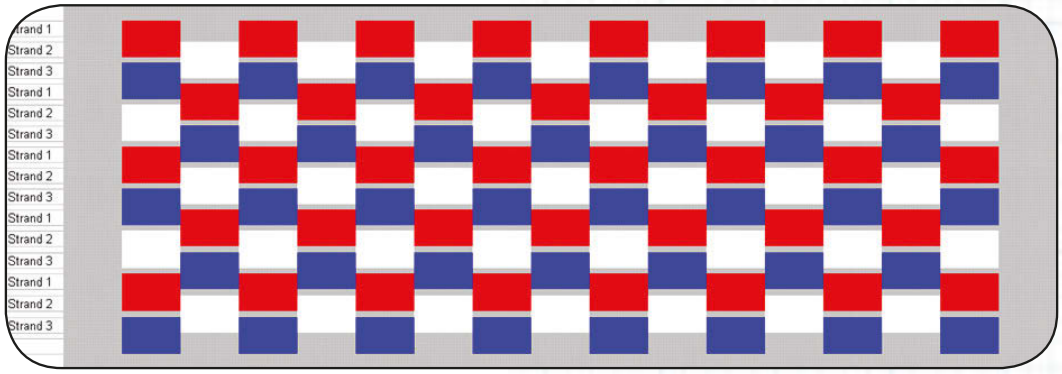
Three cords? If you've done two, three is easy! Instead of tying nine knots of each cord, tie six.

Four cords? Are you crazy? Why not? Four cords might be a bit much pulled around the top, so only pull Cord A through the first knot and tie off the remaining three strands, dividing the gaps by four. Again, instead of nine knots, tie four of these. Yeah, the total isn't up to 18, but it's close (and 18 doesn't divide evenly by 4).

Changing the color as we go? But you thought I said we can't add on cord? No, I said it was hard to add on cord. See the next page with hints about splicing in other colors. With a little bit of care and creativity you can make some really unique patterns—just be gentle on your splices.

What? More than just cans? Yup, you can do this around almost anything that needs a small case. The trick is to find how many stitches around you'll need, and to tie the first row with half as many stitches. On the second row add a stitch for each loop, and off you go!

And all this from overhand knots and half hitches! With a little bit of creativity and a lot of cord, you can make some great things with paracord!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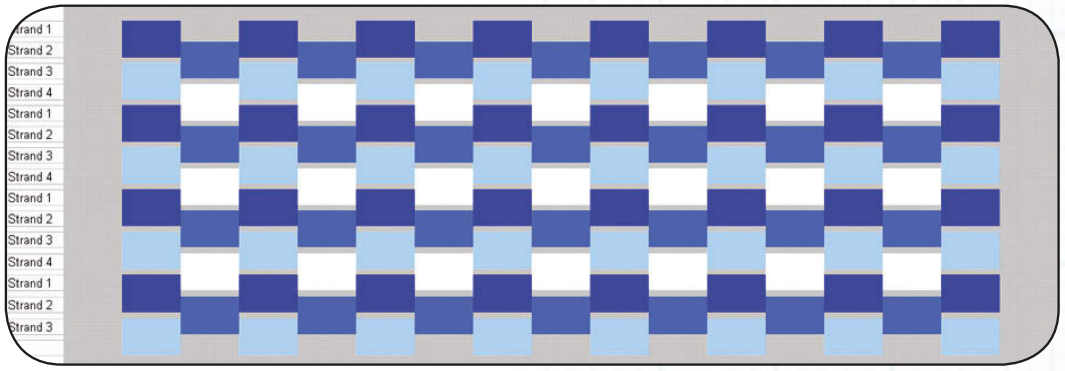
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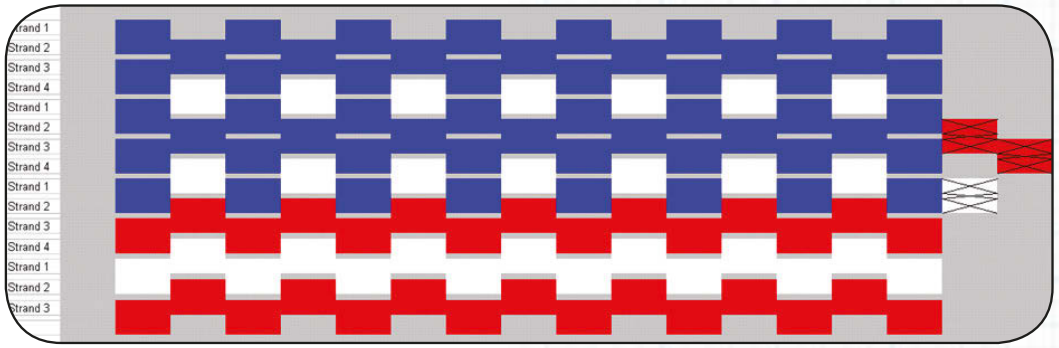
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Wrapped Drumsticks

By MrCrow9761

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-Wrapped-Drumsticks/)

This Instructable will teach you how to wrap your drumsticks in paracord. I have seen many other people in my school drum line wrap their drumsticks with shoelaces in order to give them more grip. I wanted something a little more interesting than that, so I decided to use paracord. After searching the Internet I couldn't find any instructions anywhere on how to do it with paracord. I then spent the next few hours trying to figure out how to do it. Here's how I did it so other people that have the same dilemma have a resource to use.

Step 1: Stuff You'll Need

You Will Need:

- Scissors
- Lighter
- Paracord
- Tape measure
- Drumsticks

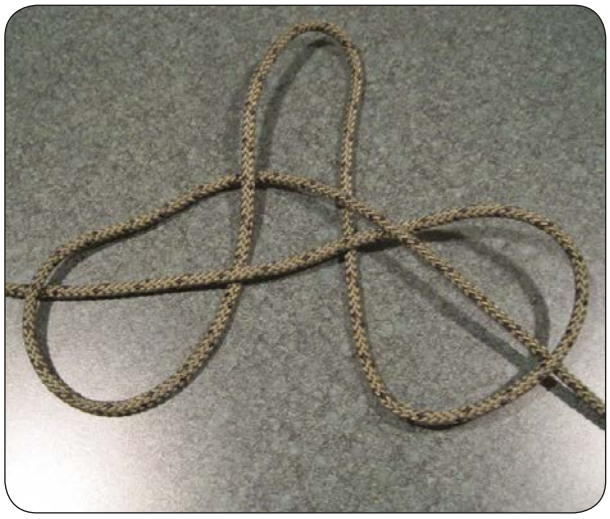
Step 2: Preparing the Paracord

Measure out the paracord using the tape measure. I used about 7 feet of paracord when I wrapped my drumsticks. Cut it off. Fray one of the ends just a bit and completely remove the innards of the paracord. Then snip off the frayed side and melt both ends of the paracord with the lighter.

Step 3: Wrapping

This part is the hardest part of this project. Use the pictures to help you.

FIRTH



AMERICAN CLAS
EXTREME 5A
FIRTH

AMERICAN CLASSIC
EXTREME 5A
FIRTH

Step 4: Repeat

Keep repeating until you get down to the end. Once you do, snip off the extra paracord and melt it into the wrapped paracord so that it doesn't unwrap

itself. To do this, just press the end with the flat side of the scissors into the wrapped paracord while you are melting it.

Step 5: And You're Done!

You're all done—well, kind of. Repeat all these steps again for your other drumstick, because it would look kind of stupid with only one drumstick wrapped and the other one not. Once you're done with that, though, then you're finally done. Now admire your badass drumsticks for a little bit and go jam!

Guitar Strap

By jurienaude

(http://www.instructables.com/id/Paracord-Guitar-Strap/)

Here I will show you how to make a paracord and leather guitar strap.

Step 1: Supplies

This is what you will need:

- Paracord (different colors if you want)
- Pen or marker
- Scissors (knife not necessary)
- Leather or something similar
- Hole punch
- G-clamp (optional)
- Paperclips (optional)
- Old guitar strap (optional)

I will be using my old strap as a guide for the length of my new strap.

Step 2: A Little Leather Work

To start I made the end flap from leather since I have a surplus stash hidden. Leather will last a lot longer; my old strap that was made from vinyl started to slip from the guitar.

I took the design from my old strap, but the flaps can be any basic shape as long as the slit is cut into it where the guitar attaches. I am also using the same flaps for both sides, since I will be the only one using the guitar—it doesn't have to be adjustable. If you decide to make your own design or want to make the strap wider, watch out for the hole where the paracord attaches.

Using a pen I just traced down the old strap's flap and I used scissors to cut out the leather.

The next thing I did was to punch holes into the leather. For my strap I am doing a ''boosted" version of the six-strand flat braid with ten strands. Instead of making ten holes, I will be only making five and looping the paracord through the holes twice.

Using the pen, I evenly spaced the holes, and, using a punch, I made the holes.

You must also make a slit where it will attach to the guitar.

Step 3: Measure

Once the flaps are done, the next thing I need to do is to cut the paracord into the right length to start the braiding. I am using my old strap as a guide to measure the cord.

I measure down two times the length plus three quarters, which will go into the braiding. So if your strap is 3 feet long, the cut cord should then be 6¾ feet long.

I will be using each cord for two strands in my braid, so there has to be five cords cut for my strap.

Once done, I use the lighter to melt the ends to prevent them from fraying.

Step 4: Loop on Tight

Once the cords and the flaps are cut, all that's left to do is to loop the cord thought the flaps and start the braiding.

To loop the cords through the flaps, all I did was to fold the cord in half and loop them though the holes. It will look a lot neater if you do it back to front.

Step 5: The Braid

Once the flaps are attached and the cord is looped on, it's time to start the braid. The braid that I will be doing is a "boosted" version of a six-strand braid. The idea is the same, but there are only four extra strands.

To start the braiding I fasten the flap to my desk with the G-clamp (optional) and start the braid.

Pull all the cords flat and start at the left. Move the first strand over the second strand and under the third strand. Repeat until you reach the last strand and leave the strand to one side. Restart with the left-most strand but alternate the pattern so that you will go under and over. At the end of the second braid, join the last strand from the previous braid in the place of the number 9 strand.

Example: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0
1 O U O U O U O U L
1 U O U O U O U O L

Pro tip: Use paperclips as you go along to prevent the strands from unraveling.

Step 6: The Grand Finale

Almost done! Once you are about 3 inches from the end, all that's left to do is to attach the second flap. This is a lot easier than the braiding, since all that you have to do is to fish two strands through each hole in the flap. Just make sure that the second flap is facing the same way as the first flap.

Paracord Holder

By mattrush
(http://www.instructables.com/id/Quick-Release-Paracord-Holder/)

I've been doing a lot of work with paracord recently and came up with this tidy way of keeping it organized. It keeps it untangled and is really easy to unravel when needed. I would usually do it with about 3 feet of loose end from the main bundle, but for demonstration purposes I've used red, as it is more contrasting. I've decided to call this technique "Bight Whipping" due to its similarity with other rope whipping I've seen around.

Step 1

Start by laying one length of cord behind the coil, then fold it back so there's a loop. Next, pull the end closest to you and lay it over the rest of the coil (this should be the shortest one). Now pull the loop around and over the short end. This is the start of what I call "Bight Whipping."

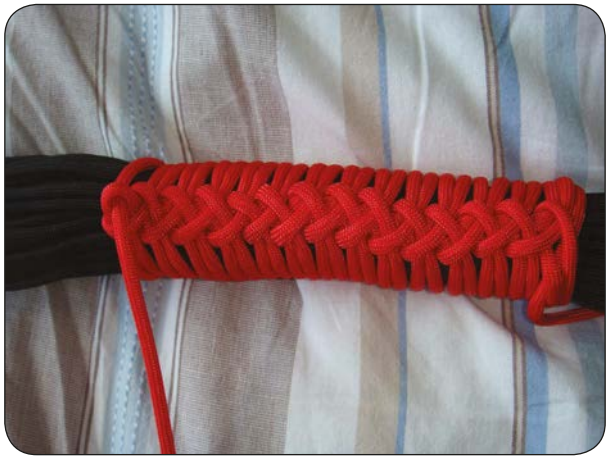
Step 2

Simply make a loop with the long, loose end and pass it behind the coil and through the previous loop. As long as you do not thread it through it is pretty simple to repeat. To tighten the previous loop, pull on the bottom of the loop, trying to keep the loops tight, as it keeps it neat and more presentable.

Using loops like this means that when you come to undo it all you tug the loose end and it will come apart almost like a zip. Keep the loops going until you're happy with it and it holds the cord sufficiently.

Step 3

When you're happy with it, pull the loose end through the loop. Only do this once or it won't come undone properly.

Step 4

Keeping the loops neat will make it look pretty tidy in the end. To undo it simply pull the loose end back through the loop and tug it. If you've done it properly then it will simply fall off as each loop tugs the next.